

Sweden hosts disarmament review

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Leaders from six nations began arriving Wednesday for a disarmament conference that was likely to renew an offer to help monitor any new superpower arms agreements. Hosting the third meeting of the so-called six nation initiative since its creation in 1984, Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson applauded the U.S.-Soviet accord to dismantle intermediate-range missiles but warned that regional conflicts are "a permanent threat" to détente. Carlsson scheduled informal talks with the visiting head of government for Wednesday, and the conference was to get under way Thursday. Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu of Greece arrived in Stockholm to join Carlsson, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere. Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's arrival was delayed when he stopped in Pakistan to pay his condolences over the death of Abdul Ghafoor Khan (See page 8). Argentina's President Raul Alfonsín, who put down a revolt in his army earlier this week, cancelled his participation and named Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to head his delegation.

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Baccouche in Doha

DOHA (R) — Tunisian Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche delivered a message to the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani, Wednesday on the second leg of a Gulf tour to explain the change of power in his country. He is carrying messages to leaders in Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and the United Arab Emirates from President Zine Abidine Ben Ali who replaced the ageing Habib Bourguiba last November.

Aden considers ties with Cairo

SHARJAH (R) — South Yemen may soon join other Arab states in resuming diplomatic ties with Egypt, a Gulf newspaper said Wednesday. Al Khaleej daily, quoting diplomatic sources in Cairo, said Aden was considering "a more significant move to match recent Arab steps towards Egypt." Cairo and Aden had talks last year that resulted in opening interest sections in the two countries, the paper noted.

Ben Bella associate arrested in Algiers

ALGIERS (R) — The official Algerian news agency APS has accused Ahmad Ben Bella, the country's first constitutional president now living in exile, of planning violent action against Algerian state interests and said one of his associates has been arrested in Algiers. The agency said Tuesday Abdul Hakim Saidani was arrested on Dec. 31 on his return from conferring with Ben Bella in Switzerland. APS said it had information that Ben Bella, who leads an Algerian opposition movement in exile, "has already planned violent action against Algeria."

NATO summit set for March 2-3

BRUSSELS (R) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) announced Wednesday that its 16 heads of government would hold a summit meeting in Brussels on March 2-3. A statement issued at the alliance's headquarters in the Belgian capital gave no details of what the leaders would discuss at the summit, their third in the past six years.

Lebanese militia 'executes' two

BEIRUT (AP) — The Lebanese Forces, "the rightists' main militia in the civil war, said Wednesday that it had put to death two of its members on a charge of "high treason." A communiqué said the pair were "convicted" of plotting to assassinate the militia's top commander, Samir Geagea, and his deputy Karim Pakradouni. It identified the two as Samir Zaitoun and Ghassan Lahoud, saying a Lebanese Forces "field court" on Jan. 6 handed down the "death sentence."

Kampuchean talks resume in Paris

ST-GERMAIN-EN-LAYE, France (R) — Kampuchean warring rivals, resistance chief Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen, sat down Wednesday for a second round of peace talks expected to be far more troublesome than their first encounter in December. The discussions, which could last up to three days, are being held at a four-star luxury hotel built within the walls of an ancient chateau in the western Paris suburbs.

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Commandos, Israelis clash near Lebanese border

SIDON, Lebanon (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) said Wednesday a three-man unit waged a four-hour battle with Israeli soldiers overnight near Kiriya Shemona settlement in northern Israel, inflicting heavy casualties.

Mahmoud Al Hassan, spokesman for the PLO in Sidon, said in a statement the three Palestinian fighters had died in the clashes. "Following orders by the PLO's general commander to escalate our arms struggle inside the occupied territories, one of our units succeeded in crossing the barbed wires, mined fields and alarm systems and arrived on hilltops 800 metres between Kiriya Shemona and Menara," the statement said.

It said the guerrillas — Lieutenant Hisham Asaad, 24, Muhssen Kamel Moutarawi, 22, and Hassan Mohammad Mehho, 23 — arrived at about 23:00 GMT and were spotted and chased by Israeli patrols.

In Tel Aviv, an Israeli army spokesman said the three, carrying explosives, were killed and an Israeli soldier was wounded during the attempt to infiltrate near the Kibbutz Menara collective settlement.

He said the settlement was 10 kilometres from where a Palestinian commando landed his hang-glider in an attack which killed six soldiers last November.

"The PLO statement said: 'The enemy was forced to dispatch new reinforcements and helicopter gunships to fight the area and the battles in which our fighters inflicted heavy losses among the enemy lines lasted till about 03:00 GMT.'

It quoted witnesses as saying aircraft were seen carrying Israeli casualties from the scene.

Palestinian sources in Sidon told Reuters the three PLO fighters staged their attack from South Lebanon, but did not identify the area.

Security sources in South Lebanon said Israel appeared to have had advance word of the attack. They said flares dropped by Israeli aircraft could be seen from South Lebanon.

The Israeli army said the fighters were on their way to carry out an attack in Israel.

The Israeli defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, said the group was "affiliated" with the PLO.

"I have no doubt that this was a PLO-affiliated organisation that planned to carry out (an) attack on a target inside Israel," he told Israeli army radio.

He said troops killed all the members of the infiltrating group.

The army said troops who later searched the area found personal weapons and LAW rockets.

More than 50 severely injured as occupation forces storm houses to beat up Palestinians

Arabs defy Israeli threat of more violence, continue anti-occupation revolt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians defiantly demonstrated Wednesday in response to the Israeli defence minister's threat to use "might, power and beatings" to crush the six-week-old uprising in the occupied territories.



Israeli soldiers force open a store in Ramallah

U.N. to make new proposals over W Bank and Gaza Strip

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said he may offer proposals for solving the problem in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip when he reports to the Security Council later this week.

In an interview with Reuters, he said Tuesday it was important not to be short-sighted about the situation in the occupied territories.

"We have to see in what way we can perhaps launch some movement which will lead to the solution of the problem," Perez de Cuellar said.

He said violence and protests in the occupied territories were not just isolated outbursts, but something that might continue and cause lasting instability.

He and his special emissary to the area, Marrack Goulding, who returned to New York Monday, were to begin work on a report to the Security Council Wednesday.

It will be delivered to the 15-nation body Friday, a U.N. spokesman said.

Perez de Cuellar said Goulding's visit was very useful, giving him the opportunity to talk with

Israeli authorities as well as some 200 Palestinians.

"I have the very difficult task not only of presenting facts, but, as well, to share with the Security Council my impression of the situation, the conclusions I draw from the situation," the secretary general said.

He said he would "start pondering tomorrow with my colleagues" what measures the United Nations might take to help.

Goulding was prevented by Israeli troops from visiting one Palestinian camp and withdrew from another when anti-Israeli demonstrations broke out. Last Saturday he was caught in the crossfire when the Israelis fired rubber bullets at protesters.

Asked if November elections in Israel and the United States impeded prospects for a broader Middle East settlement this year, Perez de Cuellar said there was a difference between "solving a problem and initiating a process towards a solution."

"There is always time for taking good decisions," he said. "But I think it would be wrong now to force the Israelis — to say,

More than 50 Palestinians were severely beaten up by Israeli soldiers at a refugee camp under curfew in the occupied Gaza Strip, United Nations officials said.

Angela Williams, acting head of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in Gaza, said a U.N. health centre in the Jabalya refugee camp treated 52 residents for severe beatings Tuesday night. Five required hospital treatment.

"The doctors were very shocked to see the effects of the beatings, which included some multiple fractures and cut wounds requiring stitches," she said.

Reuter correspondent Steve Weizman witnessed troops wielding clubs the size of baseball bats kick in doors, drag Arabs out of homes and force them to clear the streets of roadblocks in the Kadurah refugee camp in Ramallah.

Stone-throwing protesters burned tyres, blocked roads and clashed with troops and police in several villages and refugee camps around Jerusalem and Ramallah Wednesday.

(Continued on page 3)

Assad receives King's message

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Wednesday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with developments in the Middle East and the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The message was delivered at the presidential palace here by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai in the presence of Syrian Premier Mahmoud Al Zu'bi and Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa. The president hosted a working lunch in honour of Rifai, who returned home later in the day.

In Amman, Information Minister Hani Khasawneh said Rifai's visit to Damascus was in connection with the current situation in the Arab region in general, including the situation in the occupied Arab territories, and means of supporting the Arab people to face Israel's repressive measures.

In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Khasawneh said that Israel's intransigence, its refusal of the proposal for an international peace conference and the Jewish state's repressive measures had led to the present tension in the region and brought about the uprising of the Arab population.

King Hussein has been following



Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Wednesday receives in Damascus Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who delivered to him a message from His Majesty King Hussein (Petra photo)

ing the events in the occupied region with keenness and concern and with a feeling of pride over the Arab people's steadfastness and their resistance of the Israeli occupation undaunted by the repressive measures, hunger and other hardships, Khasawneh said.

He said Jordan believes that supporting the Arab people under Israeli rule is a national responsibility, enhanced by the outcome of the Amman Arab summit of last November.

The minister added that Rifai's visit to Damascus was within the

Iraq says Iran behind Khartoum killing

KHARTOUM (AP) — Iraq's ambassador to Sudan Wednesday blamed Iran for Sunday's assassination in a Khartoum hotel lobby of an Iraqi dissident.

The Sudanese government was reported to have decided to send to Iran the body of Mahdi Al Hakim, a high-ranking Shi'ite Muslim cleric slain by two gunmen as he sat in the Khartoum Hilton hotel.

Sources who would not allow the use of their names said the decision was partly because of the prestige of Hakim's family in Iran, where two of his daughters, a son and an elder brother, Mohammad Baqer Hakim, live.

Iranian news media said both brothers hold the title of hojatoleslam, a Shi'ite clerical rank just below ayatollah. Hakim excelled himself in Dubai in 1969.

The comments by Tarek Yahia Mohammad, Iraq's ambassador, was his country's first reaction to the killing.

"Terrorism is deeply rooted in the Iranian regime," he said. "The Hakim family is widely in disagreement with the Iranian regime and among themselves." He implied that Hakim might have been in disavowal in Iran because "he was known worldwide as a multimillionaire."

Mohammad said Khartoum probably was chosen for Hakim's murder because his assassins expected Iraq to be blamed. Hakim and his nephew Abdul Wahab Al Hakim had come from London to attend a convention of the fundamentalist National Islamic Front.

"We believe that this crime was committed in Khartoum so as to harm the developing relations between Sudan and Iraq, especially in recent months," Mohammad said.

On Tuesday, the Iranian foreign ministry contended that Hakim was killed by "Iraqi agents in Sudan."

Iraqi planes pound Lavan installations

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday its warplanes blasted vital Iranian oil installations on Lavan Island, at the southern tip of the Gulf, in the first such long-distance air raid this year.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the warplanes flew a successful round trip of 1,600 kilometres to bomb the island, which the Iranians have been using as their main offshore oil-loading facility.

The agency quoted a military spokesman as saying the Iraqi fighter-bombers "penetrated the enemy's defences on the island and struck hard at specific targets, setting the island's oil installations ablaze."

Lavan Island is generally considered outside the normal range of the Iraqi air force, but it has been raided several times. The last attack was on Sept. 18 last year.

Iraq has vowed to throttle its Gulf enemy's oil-based economy to force Tehran rulers to accept a peaceful compromise. Its warplanes, which have maintained air supremacy since the outbreak of the war, generally focus on Kharg Island oil loading terminal at the northern tip of the Gulf, and on tankers ferrying Iranian crude in that vicinity.

Attacks on Lavan and another nearby offshore oil centre, Larak Island, are more complicated because the distance requires refuelling in flight.

In their last long-distance raid on Dec. 22, 1987, Iraqi warplanes struck several vessels off Larak which, like Lavan, is situated in the Strait of Hormuz, the only gateway to the Gulf.

An Iraqi high command communiqué on the raid said Wednesday: "It is a legitimate right for the Iraqi people that its armed forces deal the severest blow to the Iranian war effort..."

There was no immediate comment on the Iraqi report from Iran.

Shevardnadze holds talks with Spanish prime minister

MADRID (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez Wednesday at the start of a three-day visit expected to boost growing cordiality between Moscow and Madrid.

In an unusual gesture, Gonzalez stepped out of his official residence, the Moncloa Palace, to give a personal welcome to Shevardnadze. Diplomatic protocol generally requires that a foreign minister be greeted inside the residence.

Earlier, Shevardnadze and Spanish Foreign Minister Francisco Fernandez Ordóñez discussed arms control in talks which began 90 minutes late at the request of the Soviet side.

Diplomatic sources said Shevardnadze had been suffering from a cold since visiting Afghanistan early this month and had wanted time to rest after flying in late from Bonn Tuesday.

"The talks began well," Shevardnadze said after just over one hour with Fernandez Ordóñez.

He said he had brought a message for Gonzalez from Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev, but did not disclose its content.

Spanish diplomats said the talks covered arms control issues following the signing of the superpower pact to scrap intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) last month.

They said both sides agreed that disarmament must not be stopped, and that it was important to take steps which would catch the attention of public opinion in order to stimulate the process.

Spain, NATO's youngest member, won Soviet praise as the first West European country publicly to support the INF accord, and is also viewed favourably by Moscow for insisting its territory must remain free of nuclear weapons.

Diplomats said Shevardnadze was expected to brief Spanish officials on his call in Bonn for a total ban on tactical nuclear weapons with a range of less than 500 kilometres.

Senior Executive of Grindlays Bank visits Jordan

The new regional director for the Middle East of Grindlays Bank, Mr. R.G.L. Barnes, arrived in Amman yesterday on a five-day visit. During his stay, Mr. Barnes will tour all Grindlays Amman branches together with those in Zerka, Irbid and Northern

Shouneh and hold planning meetings with General Manager Alan Cooper and members of his senior management team. The highlight of the visit will be a reception at the Marriott Hotel Sunday for many distinguished personalities and clients.



(terminal 1) 16:40 Doha, Bahrain (GF)
17:28 Athens (OA)

U.K. firm gets contract for Arab drugs company

AMMAN (J.T.) — The British Frederick Snow (Int. Ltd.) company Wednesday signed a contract for providing engineering consultancy services and laying down designs for the Arab company for the Manufacture of Veterinary Drugs and Appliances which is to be set up at Umm Al Amad in the suburbs of Amman. Under the contract, the British company will also supervise the implementation of the project in cooperation with the leading contractor, once work is underway early next year.

The Arab company established in 1987 is affiliated to the Amman-based Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA), and has a \$15 million capital owned by Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and ACDIMA which is a pan-Arab company established by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU).

ACDIMA sources said that the projected company which will be producing veterinary medicine to meet the needs of Arab countries in Asia is not expected to go into operation until 1990.

The sources said that the project should provide employment to at least 165 people of various specialisations.

The chairman of the board of directors of the new Arab company, Abdullah Al Ghanem, said that Jordan has offered all facilities and incentives for investment of Arab capital and has created the proper atmosphere for successful projects. "This prompted the company to choose Amman as venue for its headquarters."

Ghanem voiced his appreciation and gratitude to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan for his continued encouragement for pan-Arab projects and said he was looking forward to further support from Jordan and Prince Hassan when the project enters its production stage.

The British company's general manager and Ghanem signed the contract in the presence of senior company officials.

Health Ministry official to receive 'Shusha Award'

GENEVA (Petra) — The World Health Organisation's (WHO) Executive Council has decided to present the "Shusha Award" to Dr. Hani Shammout who heads the Contagious Diseases and Vaccination Department at the Ministry of Health in Jordan in recognition of his efforts in health affairs, especially in planning vaccination programmes in the Kingdom.

A WHO statement said Jordan is now at the top of the list of East Mediterranean countries conducting vaccination programmes.

Shammout will be presented with the award which comprises a medal and a financial gift at the WHO annual meeting to be held in May, the statement said.

The "Shusha Award" was created after the late Tawfik Shusha who had served as the first director of the WHO regional office.

Dr. Shusha died in 1955 and the WHO decided to create an award to be presented to people with remarkable achievements in health affairs.

Jordan voices regret over destruction of Korean jet

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Wednesday voiced its deep regret over the loss of innocent civilian life in a South Korean airline crash last November.

The plane which was blown up in mid-air caused the death of 115 people on board; and South Korea said it would try a North Korean agent for her part in "this act of sabotage."

Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabih Al-Nimer who was speaking at a meeting in his office with South Korea's Ambassador to Jordan, Dong-Soon Park said that Jordan "deplores all forms of terrorism, regardless of their sources and their objectives."

The ambassador briefed Nimer on the outcome of official investigations into the incident, and said that North Korea was responsible for the blast.

Parliament committees to continue discussion on West Bank, Gaza revolt

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Foreign Affairs and the Occupied Territories Affairs Committees of the Lower House of Parliament will hold a joint meeting Thursday to continue discussion on the situation in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The meeting which will be chaired by the House Speaker Akel Al-Fayez will be attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, according to an official statement.

The two committees held a meeting on Monday during which they discussed the ongoing Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-held Arab land.

Committee members who spoke during the session deplored Israeli's actions and said that the uprising was bound to erupt sooner or later "as a demonstration of the Arab people's feelings and a reaction to Israel's inhuman practices."

The two committees said that in view of the continuing protest and Israeli actions against the protesters, the committees will consider their meetings to be in constant session and to await an official government statement.

At Thursday's session the two committees are expected to hear the government's view on the situation.

Arabs defy Israeli threat of more violence, continue protests

(Continued from page 1)

An army officer in the area said curfew violators risked being beaten, but Palestinian camp residents said the beatings occurred during house-to-house searches by troops.

'Uprising will continue'

Anti-Israeli demonstrations were reported in several areas around Jerusalem and a Gaza religious leader regarded as one of the spiritual fathers of the revolt warned the uprising would continue.

Palestinian sources said protesters demonstrated and stoned passing cars in the West Bank town of Ramallah, and witnesses said Arabs burned tyres and confronted police in the village of Issawiya on the edge of Jerusalem.

Sheikh Ahmad Yasin, a Gaza religious leader regarded as close to the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, said in an interview with Reuters: "The calm will be short-lived. As long as the circumstances force the people into rebellion, it will continue."

Some striking Gaza workers might have to return to their jobs in Israel out of economic necessity "but it will not weaken the revolt," Yasin said.

After 11 days of round-the-clock curfews in seven of Gaza's eight refugee camps, home to 250,000 Palestinians, the army eased restrictions in some camps Wednesday, allowing some workers to travel to Israel.

But UNRWA officials estimated that only about 15 per cent

of Palestinian workers made the journey.

Williams said Israeli troops were allowing UNRWA to deliver emergency food supplies to camps, but not to distribute it in some places.

"Our view is that people are hungry and they are certainly demanding food. When we go into a camp, we get besieged by people asking for bread and milk and tea," she said.

Doctors harassed

In Gaza, about 100 doctors and nurses staged a sit-in to demand that Israeli soldiers allow them to enter refugee camps and treat the injured and the ill.

At the Gaza Doctors' Association, about a dozen Israeli soldiers and plainclothes officers confiscated 15 to 20 boxes of paperwork, including files of some of the 1,100 member doctors and pharmacists.

Dr. Rabah Mohanna, the association's deputy chairman, said no explanation was given but he believed it was in retaliation for the sit-in.

After the search, AP reporter Karin Lamb saw furniture overturned, cartons swept onto the floor and rugs pushed aside. Soldiers at the scene seized the identification papers of AP stringer Qassem Ali, forcing the two to leave during the search.

In the Jerusalem neighbourhood of Issawiya, Palestinian children blocked roads with burning tyres and threw stones at a police jeep.

The jeep ran over the protester and hit an electrical pole and



Minister of Agriculture Marwan Humud receives Egyptian Minister of Scientific Research Adel 'Izz in his office Wednesday (Petra photo)

Jordan, Egypt discuss cooperation in agriculture, scientific research

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian-Egyptian cooperation in scientific research in general, and in agricultural fields in particular, were reviewed at a meeting here Wednesday between Minister of Agriculture Marwan Humud and visiting Egyptian Minister of Scientific Research Dr. Adel 'Izz.

The two ministers also discussed bilateral exchange in information and data related to agriculture which could promote development projects in both countries.

The minister of agriculture briefed the Egyptian minister and his accompanying delegation on Jordan's experiments in agriculture and pilot projects that have already been implemented or underway.

"These projects aim at increasing the volume of agricultural products to help Jordan attain self-sufficiency in food supplies and ensure food security," Humud said.

The minister noted that Jordan over the past few years "was able to achieve satisfactory growth rates in agriculture and is striving to introduce technology to all fields of agriculture."

The ministry of agriculture in Jordan offers incentives to local farmers to ensure an increase in the volume of crops and is taking measures that can stem migration

of people from rural to urban regions in the kingdom, Humud said.

He said, Jordan has been increasing its production of vegetables, of which a great deal is being exported, and has attained self-sufficiency in lean meat by executive extensive and important projects.

"The application of the agricultural patterns system in Jordan," Humud said, "is aimed at creating a balance between production and the needs of markets here and abroad. It is also aimed at diversifying the types of crops and producing certain kinds that are currently imported from abroad."

The minister also noted that Jordanian-Egyptian agricultural cooperation is being promoted through joint agreements which, he said, "aim at serving the interests of the Egyptian and Jordanian people."

"Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbeh attended the meeting."

Later Wednesday, the two ministers toured the National Research Centre at the Jordan Valley region and heard a briefing on the centre's programmes by its director who outlined programmes dealing with farming, pasture lands, plant and animal diseases

and services offered to the local farmers.

The two ministers also called at the University of Jordan's farm and inspected experiments designed to improve production and improved strains of crops.

Humud and 'Izz called at the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) headquarters and were briefed by its President Mohammad Bani Hani on the JVA's role and its programmes in the Jordan Valley. "The JVA undertakes projects from the extreme north to the extreme south of the kingdom. It also supervises water resources, dams, population settlements, farms, schools and other facilities," Bani Hani explained.

The two ministers were accompanied by a number of officials from the ministry of Agriculture.

The Egyptian minister later met with the president of the University of Jordan Dr. Abdul Salam Al-Majali to discuss cooperation in research work between Egypt and the University of Jordan.

Majali spoke about the development of the university and its programmes and later accompanied 'Izz on a tour of a number of university centres including the library and the documentation and manuscripts centre as well as the university hospital.

Zimbabwean minister leaves for home

AMMAN (Petra) — Zimbabwean Minister of Transport Simbarashe Mumbengewi left Amman for home Wednesday at the end of a week-long visit to Jordan during which he delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe on bilateral relations.

During the visit Mumbengewi held talks with his Jordanian counterpart Khaled Al-Haj Hassan dealing with issues of transport, telecommunications and bilateral cooperation in these fields.

In a pre-departure statement Mumbengewi expressed his happiness about the visit and the hospitality accorded to him and his delegation.

He said that his country was



Zimbabwean Minister of Transport Simbarashe Mumbengewi is seen off Wednesday at Amman airport by Minister of Transport and Telecommunication Khaled Al-Haj Hassan (Petra photo)

looking forward to further cooperation with Jordan in various fields especially in the exchange of expertise in transport and telecommunications.

Haj Hassan and other officials were at the airport to see off the Zimbabwe delegation.

camera and you," said the soldier, armed with a baton. Other troops intervened to prevent the reporter seeing the prisoner.

French journalist Alain Frachon of Le Monde and Italian Lorenzo Cremonese of Corriere della Sera, said police threw their Israeli-government issued press cards to the ground.

They tore up Cremonese's notebook after checking the two reporters' identities at the scene of a demonstration on Jerusalem's Mount of Olives, they said.

Force against strike

Several Palestinians arrested in and around Ramallah Wednesday as Palestinian shopkeepers obeyed calls for a business strike, refusing to sell to customers although soldiers forced open their shops.

"They can make us open our stores but they can't force us to sell," said a trader on the town's Maanara Square.

Supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called Monday for a four-day protest strike by shops and businesses in the occupied territories but soldiers with heavy bolt-cutters forced stores to open, traders said.

"They come and break the locks on your store if you are there or not, so you have to be there to protect your property," said a Ramallah grocer.

In Kadurah, a small Palestinian refugee camp near the city centre, residents said soldiers had tossed tear-gas grenades into an open store, then locked the own-

Plans gather momentum for private university

ZARQA (J.T.) — Plans are going ahead for the establishment of a private university in Zarqa, and the Ministry of Higher Education will provide assistance towards the establishment of this university, Minister of Higher Education Nassereddine Al-Assad said here Wednesday.

The minister announced that the Council of Higher Education (CHE), which supervises the work of higher educational institutions in the country, has received three new applications for the establishment of the projected private university.

Dr. Assad said he expects more applications to come to the CHE in the coming weeks before necessary steps can be taken to help set up the university.

The Ministry of Higher Education will also provide a detailed study to all those concerned with the projected university and to CHE with the purpose of facilitating this project, Assad noted.

He said that CHE had decided to set up the university in Zarqa in view of the great density of population there and in the light of growing demand on higher education in the Kingdom.

It was in July 1986 when Assad announced his ministry's intention to allow the establishment of a private university in Zarqa and said it will be a public shareholding company.

CHE had endorsed the idea of a private university to offer the private sector the opportunity to help the public sector in the

process of higher education to complement the private sector's activities related to primary, preparatory and secondary education, Assad had said.

According to Assad financial, industrial, commercial and educational organisations in Jordan are to be given the right to acquire shares in the capital of the new university with their total participation being no less than 60 per cent of the university's capital.

He said that the total capital of the new university would be JD 10 million, subject to increases.

At present Jordan has four universities: the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the Jordan University for Science and Technology and Mu'ta University.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, quoted Zarqa Governor Eid Al-Qatameh as saying that Zarqa's location is a convenient venue for establishing the private university in view of its high dense population, its central position which can be easily reached from all governorates and because it contains the largest number of factories and attracts many workers.

"The establishment of a private university has become a necessity to save huge funds being annually spent on higher education abroad," according to the chairman of Zarqa's Municipal Council, Badri Bahaudin.

Bahaudin said that the projected university can, in addition to offering education to local students, attract students from other Arab countries.

Assad, in an interview conducted last August, said that his ministry will continue to absorb students at all Jordanian universities in the coming years and will continue to allow Jordanians to pursue higher studies abroad.

Upon announcing the intention to open a private university in the Kingdom the minister noted that at least 40,000 Jordanian students were receiving university education abroad and that nearly JD 100 million were being spent annually on their education.

He said that a private university has become a necessity in order to absorb these students.

He also announced that his ministry had received 30 applications for starting the new university in Jordan.

Dr. Assad also announced that plans were underway to allow that students who finish their courses at the country's community colleges to be admitted to local universities and complete their courses for their first university degrees provided they meet the requirements of the universities.

Jordanian enters U.S. list of distinguished students

AMMAN (J.T.) — Higher Point College in the American State of North Carolina has added Seema Qubani, a Jordanian student, to a list of distinguished students to appear in the college's 1988 Who's Who edition.

A college press release said that Seema, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fuad Qubani of Amman, was named to the new edition because of her outstanding academic achievement.

The 1988 edition of Who's Who will include 14 other stu-

dents from High Point College who have been selected as outstanding campus leaders, and the choice is based upon their records, their service to the community, leadership in extra-curricular activity and potential continued success, the release said.

It said that the 15 High Point College students join an elite group of campus leaders selected from more than 1,400 institutions in all 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries.

Jordan to take part in Arab customs talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Customs Department will be taking part in the annual meeting of general directors of customs departments in Arab countries scheduled to be held in Tunis on Jan. 28.

The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) will also take part in the annual conference on the Indian Ocean's satellite which will be held in Washington on Jan. 25.

Jordan maintains constant anti-drug vigil despite small number of users

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Drug abuse in Jordan is a negligible but anticipated problem, with only 13 out of 10,000 people having used illegal drugs at least once, according to Colonel Hashem Qaisi, director of the Arab Bureau for Narcotics based in Amman.

Col. Qaisi, lecturing in a seminar on drugs at the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) Tuesday evening, said that in order to prevent the problem from escalating, a joint Arab draft law calls for stricter punishment of drug traffickers who supply the users. The present punishment for traffickers, he added, is hard labour; whereas, the draft law stipulates death by hanging.

"Studies show that one drug user can gather up to 200 others who do not normally use narcotics," Col. Qaisi said, stressing that if this problem is not tackled from the beginning it could be too late to deal with it. He gave Pakistan as an example, where "it was not admitted there was a drug problem and nothing was done to combat it. Therefore, they discovered later that there were up to 300,000 addicts because the problem was not faced earlier," Col. Qaisi said.

Col. Qaisi gave a brief history on drug abuse, starting with the opium war in China. He said that drugs are now available in all parts of the world because of the transportation development. "Jordan is a transit area for drug trafficking; 20 per cent of narcotics passing through the country stays in the Jordanian black market," Col. Qaisi noted.

He added that last year there were five million travellers coming through Jordan, with 450,000 cars, and that any of these travellers could smuggle drugs into the country. The colonel went on to say that generally speaking, statistics show that authorities in most countries usually discover only 30 per cent of drug smugglers and dealers.

Col. Qaisi suggested that if countries cooperated with each other to combat the flow of narcotics, the problem would ease. "Interpol recently discovered, for example, that there are 850 kilograms of heroin loose in Turkey. This is very dangerous because some of it could easily leak to Jordan and other Arab countries if authorities in this part of the world do not try to combat it," he warned.

Also speaking at the seminar

was Dr. Awni Sa'ad, a psychiatrist, who explained that all types of people mostly young ones, from all economic classes, use illegal drugs.

He said that most of the hashish and marijuana users usually turn to stronger drugs, although "many believe that natural narcotics are not addictive; the danger is moving to stronger processed drugs that are addictive."

Dr. Sa'ad said that all types of drugs, including cannabis (hashish and marijuana), amphetamines, barbiturates, hallucinogens, heroin and cocaine, lead to loss of productivity by the users, and therefore a great loss in national productivity. "The only goal for the addict is to get the narcotics, which could lead to crime in order to obtain the money to buy them. There is usually an increase in crime, suicide and traffic accidents," the doctor said.

He added that addicts become isolated from society and stick with a circle of people who use them as well.

Dr. Sa'ad went on to say that some of the reasons that people begin to take narcotics are curiosity and peer pressure, especially among younger people; immigration, which may cause a lack of belonging in a new society; easy access to drugs; unemployment, and poverty. "Therefore, it is usually a form of escape from the uncomfortable reality of the individual," he noted.

The psychiatrist classified the users into different categories: "The person who tries it only once, the one who uses it whenever it is available, and the addict who begins to lose the pleasure of its effect and takes it to relieve his physical need. This means the addict must increase his dose," outlined Dr. Sa'ad.

The final speaker, Dr. Mohammad Shreim, a member of the National Committee for Combating Drugs, said that a survey conducted in 1979 in Jordan showed that 40 per cent of those who turned to drugs did so because of socio-economic reasons.

He said it was discovered that education has something to do with drug abuse: 31 per cent of users were illiterate, while 22 per cent had elementary education, 19 per cent had middle school education, 17 per cent high school graduates and 13 per cent were university graduates.

Concerning awareness campaigns on drug abuse, Dr. Shreim said "I am not sure whether this would help the person not to try narcotics or actually encourage one to try."

Col. Qaisi commented on informing the public on the dangers of drugs, saying: "The information on this subject must be well studied and complete in order to have the proper effect on the public. If not, it could encourage people to use drugs to satisfy their curiosity."

A REQUIEM MASS

A Requiem Mass will be held at the Latin Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation in Jabal Lweibdeh, Friday 22 January 1988 at 11.00 a.m. in memorial of the late:

JEAN CLAUDE GLUKMANN

His wife and his children Fadi, Shadi, Zein and the Glukmann and Karabashy Families invite all relatives and friends to attend the Requiem Mass to be followed by a lunch at the Glukmann residence in Shmeisani, South of the Middle East Hotel, where condolences will be accepted.

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Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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And now, starvation

HAVING failed to crush the spirit of the Palestinian revolution in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by live bullets, tear-gas and armoured vehicles, Israel's Shamir-Peres government now seems bent on starving the Palestinians to death in a desperate bid to strangle their uprising. Israel's Minister of Defence Yitzhak Rabin has threatened to use more force to quell the Palestinian revolt and to turn back any attempt by any side to alleviate the conditions of the Palestinians, especially in refugee camps where they are literally under military siege. Rabin stood by his words and ordered his troops to stop food and clothing from reaching the refugee camps and other urban areas in the last few days, and warned that curfews, military sieges and near starvation of the Palestinians would continue to be the order of the day until Palestinian strikes are over and done with. Thus the escalation of the Israeli violence goes on and all attempts to inject an even faint thought that the deteriorating situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip calls for an urgent political solution rather than a military confrontation has been rebutted and muted by even more violence and arbitrary measures — which are intended to suffocate reason and common sense even within Israel itself.

The iron-fist policy with which Israel is handling the Palestinian cry for liberty and self-determination has caused some consternation within Israel, and among Jews all over the world. The criticism of Israel by its own people and supporters of the way it is treating the Palestinians has become more and more vociferous of late. The scenes of convoys of food and clothing being turned away at gun point, over and above the scenes of repressive and brutal measures already used by Israeli troops against unarmed Palestinian demonstrators, will surely arouse the conscience of the world, of Jew and gentile alike, to the cry that the Palestinian case now requires less repression and more common sense and compassion than any other time in the past. The conscience of the Christian world has already spoken in support of the legitimate yearning and aspirations of the Palestinian people, through the voice of no other than Pope John Paul, who on more than one occasion voiced his criticism of Israeli practices in the occupied Arab territories. But will the Israeli government ever learn and heed the calls for sanity from all corners of the world, and stop its repressive and inhuman treatment of the Palestinians? Or are we now asked to watch Palestinians starve, to assure Israel's "security"?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Apologising to Israel, vetoing Arabs

THE U.S. veto against a U.N. Security Council resolution condemning Israel's repeated acts of aggression on Lebanon clearly reflects Washington's persistence in providing support for Israel's terrorist activity. The American delegate who vetoed the resolution gave a ridiculous justification for his action, but one which the world should consider as very serious because it means that a world power has decided to condone acts of aggression. The veto means simply that the United States supports Israel's continued acts of terrorism and massaging of Arab people, demolishing of Arab homes and places of worship. Washington's refusal to deplore such actions committed by Israel provides another proof of the unlimited support and protection for the aggressors and the terrorists in occupied Palestine or in South Africa or other parts of the world. The veto came days after U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had expressed his country's apology and regret for voting in favour of a previous council resolution condemning Israel's actions in the occupied Arab lands in the face of the current uprising. Shultz gave a promise that the vote was a mistake and will not be repeated. The veto came to emphasise Shultz's statement and was in keeping with his promise to the Jewish state, although the U.S. realises that Israel has killed women and children and raided civilian centres in Lebanon. We wonder what will happen in the future and what will be the attitude of the U.S. which keeps bragging about world peace, human rights and a free world while it continues to assist Israel to commit aggression.

Al Dustour: Arab coordination continues

CHIEF of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem carried messages from King Hussein to heads of Gulf Cooperation Council countries covering a host of Arab issues of concern to the whole Arab Nation. The messages which were part of the ongoing consultations among the Arab leaders presented Jordan's views as to the current situation in the Arab region and its stand vis-a-vis the ongoing events. Needless to say that the Arab revolt in the occupied Arab territories and Israel's inhuman practices against the Arab population were among the main topics contained in the royal messages. These issues call for coordination of Arab countries' efforts and concerting of their stands in support of the Arab inhabitants. The steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli rule should be given priority over other considerations at this critical stage and at a time when the Israeli forces are escalating their repressive measures and carrying out terrorist campaigns on our brothers and sisters in a bid to force them to abandon their homeland. Strengthening the Arab people's steadfastness serves as a message to Israel that it cannot continue ignoring the rights of the Palestinian people for ever, and cannot scoff at the will of the international community indefinitely. Jordan, which is totally committed to helping the Arab people under Israel's rule, urges all Arab states to step up their efforts for backing the struggle of the Palestinian people and alleviating their sufferings.

Sawt Al Shaab: Jordan urges Arab support for uprising

KING Hussein's messages to the heads of Arab Gulf states outlined the situation in the occupied Arab territories and urged the Arab countries to increase their support and assistance for the Arab people under Israeli rule. Jordan's moves in this direction reflect its deep national commitment towards the Arab people who are maintaining a revolt in the face of Israel's atrocities. Jordan seeks to gather the greatest measure of support and backing for the Arab population who continue to face Israel's repressive actions. The messages came at a time when there is much need for helping the Arab people in their struggle to thwart Israel's plans and maintain their resistance and their steadfastness.

A voice of hope

By Anthony Lewis

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

In 20 years of occupation there have been waves of Palestinian protest, but none nearly so intense or extended. Gaza has been in turmoil for more than a month now. The shops in the West Bank and East Jerusalem have been closed for days. And the protest goes on despite successive Israeli measures: Deportations, arrests, detentions, more than 40 Palestinians killed.

But where can the protest lead politically? I put the question to a leading Palestinian intellectual, Sari Nusseibeh. A professor of philosophy at Birzeit University in the West Bank, he is known to many Israelis and is usually characterised as a moderate, a centrist.

"Ideally you would get the negotiating process going," Mr. Nusseibeh responded. "Not that the protest began for that end. There wasn't a mind planning in advance what to do and why; the Israelis know it was spontaneous resistance to the occupation. But it would matter if the uprising hurried people to the negotiating table."

Mr. Nusseibeh said he foresaw more violence on both sides if what he called "a process of civil rebellion" built up. "It will not be Gandhian," he said. He men-



Sari Nusseibeh

tioned in that regard the killing of a young Palestinian by a Jewish settler in the West Bank.

He indicated, however, that his own choice for Palestinians, as the most effective means to a political end, would be nonviolent civil disobedience. He spoke of a number of possible "means to disengage from the Israeli system."

"You can stop paying taxes. Then you go on to licenses, building permits. You are under house arrest; you violate it. Or you are under orders to report daily to the police, and you don't."

"The identity card would be a symbolic point of no return. Say you get 100 public figures from the West Bank and Gaza; they

gather at the Damascus Gate and burn their Israeli identity cards."

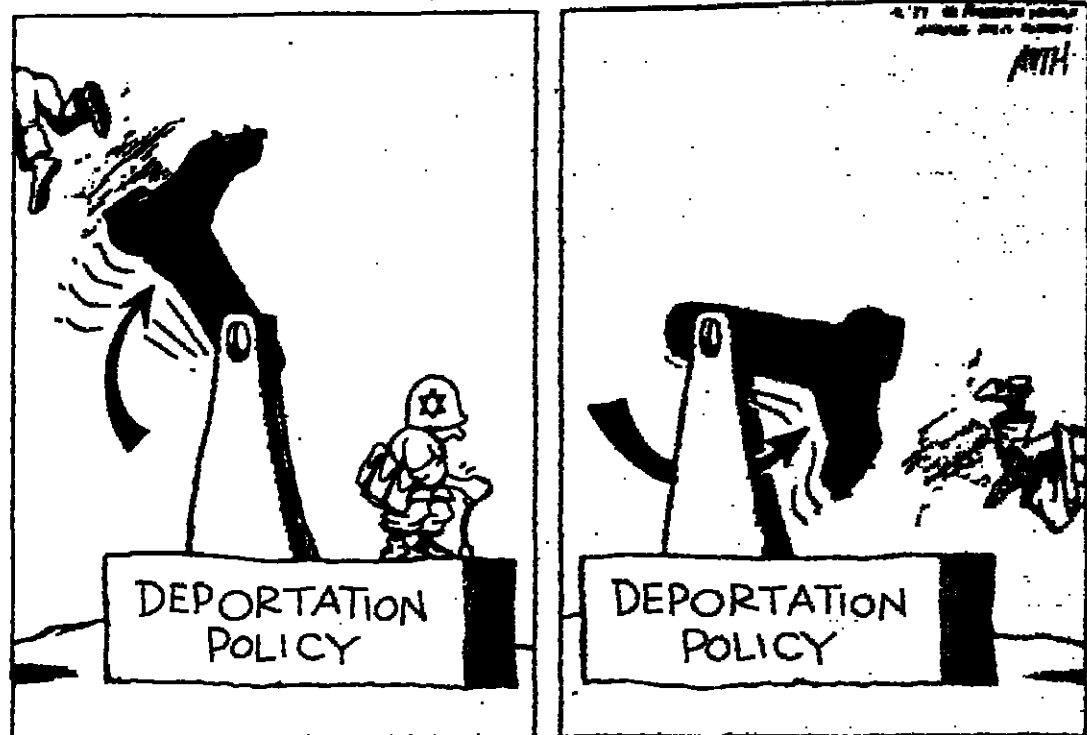
He added: "It is all a risk. It needs a kind of faith. You have to make up your mind — you either stay in the system or you say the hell with it, you will no longer play the game by the rules."

When he spoke of the protest leading to negotiations, I asked what negotiations did he mean? Between whom? Mr. Nusseibeh said there should be an international conference, including Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

But the PLO is political anathema in Israel. The leaders of both major parties in the coalition government, the Likud and Labour, have rejected the idea of sitting down with the PLO, which most Israelis dismiss as a terrorist organisation. Why should that change now?

"The PLO did not start the uprising," Mr. Nusseibeh said, "but it alone is in a position to stop it. If the PLO radio called on people to stop the civil action and return to work, I'm sure 98 per cent of the trouble would stop. That includes the Islamic fundamentalists — if not out of love, out of necessity, because they cannot operate by themselves."

"So I think Defense Minister Rabin should contact the PLO. As a signal for future negotiations he could take some immediate



steps to alleviate pressures on people in the occupied territories — release prisoners, for example; cancel deportation orders. And if I were advising the PLO, I would urge them to prepare a bold Palestinian peace programme to present to the Israeli man in the street. It is necessary to allay his fears for his future and his children's future in this state."

"The message should be: 'We don't want to push you into the sea, but we also do not wish to be thrown into the desert. We do not wish to destroy your state, but we

want our own state alongside."

"It's no good to have just an uprising — to have war, if you will. It is necessary to have an alternative, the peace option."

To be a peacemaker in situations of intense conflict can be dangerous, as Mr. Nusseibeh well knows. When he took part in secret talks with a Likud official last year and the story came out, he was beaten up by masked men at Bizzit.

"There is a security risk in being a moderate," he said. "But the way to avoid that is not to shy

away from the political effort but to press it. If there are tangible results, the risk is decreased. Peace is a game in which two people are involved. You have to help each other."

Probably most people in the region, Israelis and Palestinians alike, would dismiss these views as hopelessly idealistic. The more likely future may well be unending conflict and repression. But at the beginning of a visit to the Middle East, it is good to hear someone talking of a way out — The New York Times.

Felicia Langer defending Palestinians and Israelis too

By Mascha Hamilton
The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Slumped in a chair, Felicia Langer recalled the latest death threat, which arrived in her mailbox six days ago.

"The letter said I was a traitor and should die as a dog," she said. "But some of my countrymen are misguided. I feel I am doing far more for Israelis than for the Palestinians. I am trying to save Israel's soul."

Langer is an Israeli Communist and an attorney who represents Arabs against her own government — a line of work many Israelis view as tantamount to treason.

On Sunday (Jan. 17), she won a temporary victory for four Palestinians facing deportation from the Gaza Strip as alleged instigators of the anti-Israeli uprising sweeping the area.

Langer argues that Israelis have been corrupted by their 20 years as occupiers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, that soldiers are often subconsciously trained to mistreat the Arabs and that the Palestinians should have a state of their own.

Although her work has made her an outcast, Langer believes

her ideas are winning acceptance among Israelis who, in the face of six weeks of violent anti-Israeli protests, are calling for an end to the occupation.

"When I started out 20 years ago, I was one lone Jewish woman who wanted to help people who were, in my opinion, victims," Langer said in an interview in her office, sparsely decorated with Arab mementoes.

"Now millions of people, including a vast spectrum of Israelis, know the Palestinians are victims," she said.

Langer is a doctrinaire Communist. Born 57 years ago in Poland, she fled with her parents to the Soviet Union to escape the Nazis.

After the war she married and settled in Poland, deciding to come to Israel later at the request of her mother, who had moved here.

The life she now lives began in 1967, after Israel occupied the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and the Golan Heights. The Israelis responded to the victory with a joy Langer describes as "collective alcoholism."

She opened an office in Jerusalem and began, with just a smattering of Arabic, to repre-

sent Palestinians. "I knew the Arabs would need legal counsel. All of their lawyers had decided to boycott the Israeli military courts," she recalled.

Her critics argue that she is too quick to believe the Palestinians, and too slow to understand the difficulties of the young Israeli soldiers.

"But how can you disbelieve bruises?" she asks. "And why should I sympathise with the soldier? There is such a thing as free will. He can refuse to serve in the West Bank, and all that will happen is he will serve 28 days in jail."

The work over the past 20 years, she said, has exhausted her as well as made her name a dirty word for many in Israel. "I am drained emotionally and physically," she said. "But I could not do otherwise. It's not just a job. It's a way of life."

Vandals have smeared her office door with profanities. Several years ago, she moved to a new apartment in Tel Aviv and got an unlisted home telephone number.

Today she sometimes feels uncomfortable during her frequent trips to the occupied territories. In early January, she called her husband from Gaza.

"There were demonstrations and it was difficult to get out. But I told him, 'I need so much to hug you I will do everything I can to come home,'" she said. "I feel more than ever now, even friendly Israelis (in the occupied territories) are intruders."

She argues that the anti-Israeli protests, referred to by the Arabs as *Al Intifadeh*, or the uprising, were inevitable.

"The nature of the occupation has always been cruel and it was bound to backfire. I have always said, if you are an island, don't quarrel with the sea," Langer said. "We are an island, but we are always antagonising the sea relentlessly."

U.N. chief faces impossible job with patience and determination

By Michael Littlejohns
Reuter

UNITED NATIONS — After six years as United Nations Secretary General, Javier Perez de Cuellar has yet to achieve a major diplomatic success, but he is given high marks for trying to do an impossible job.

Delegates say that through his patience and determination, Perez de Cuellar's personal prestige remains high, even if the image of the organisation he leads is not what it once was.

The Peruvian diplomat, who turned 68 on Tuesday, served as his country's ambassador before succeeding Kurt Waldheim as United Nations head in 1982.

He underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery in 1986 but bounced back from the operation and, with four years of his second five-year term to go, pursues vigorously a daily schedule that might tax the energies of many half his age.

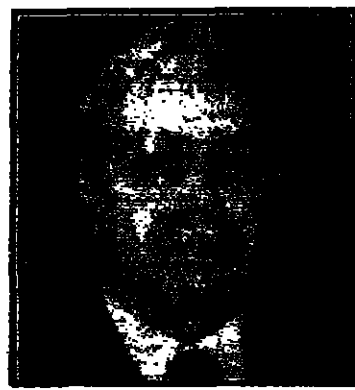
Diplomats say that perhaps nowhere is the secretary general's famous patience more evident than in his efforts to negotiate peace in Afghanistan and between Iran and Iraq.

Repeated rebuffs have marked his bid for a ceasefire in the Gulf. But there is better news about Afghanistan where U.N. officials say there is a real chance for a breakthrough by mid-year.

If so, they say Perez de Cuellar and the United Nations must take a lot of the credit.

Prospects for a halt to the war between Iran and Iraq, which the Security Council demanded in a unanimous resolution adopted last July, are not so encouraging.

That task, along with the search for a Middle East peace settlement, is among the secretary general's highest priorities, aides say.



Perez de Cuellar

The recent violence in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip has again focused attention on the wider Arab-Israeli conflict that persists in the face of years of U.N. efforts to bring peace to the region.

Cyprus remains a serious U.N. problem — one in which Perez de Cuellar, who served as Waldheim's special emissary to the island, retains an active personal as well as diplomatic interest.

Perez de Cuellar also has a personal involvement in Afghanistan, having sought a settlement on the United Nations' behalf before becoming secretary general, again as Waldheim's negotiator.

In February 1982, a month after he became secretary general, he handed the job over to another Latin American diplomat, Under Secretary General Diego Cordovez of Ecuador.

Cordovez is expected soon to have further crucial talks in Kabul and Islamabad, prior to what he has said should be a conclusive round of meetings in Geneva on a draft agreement.

Agreement on a time frame for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, requested nine times by General Assembly re-

solutions, now is believed within reach.

The pullout could begin as early as next May, according to recent Soviet statements.

Aside from the positive developments over Afghanistan, there is another bright spot on Perez de Cuellar's horizon in this first month of his seventh U.N. year.

For the time being at least, the U.N. financial crisis has dissipated.

The payment by the United States of \$100 million of its arrears, prompt contributions by several Western members of their new year's dues and a promise of \$200 million by the Soviet Union have assured U.N. solvency at least until August, officials say.

Only about a month ago, the secretary general expressed fears that the world body would enter 1988 with barely enough cash to meet two weeks' commitments.

Officials now expect the United States, the biggest contributor to the U.N. budget, will eventually pay its outstanding debt of about \$250 million.

Perez de Cuellar warned members that an impoverished United Nations could not play the crucial role envisaged by its founders in an increasingly inter-dependent world.

Aides say he is gratified by renewed Soviet interest in the U.N.'s peacemaking potential.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made a strong defence of the organisation in an article published in the Soviet press last September.

Washington, whose support for the U.N. in recent years was perceived at best as tepid, has also been rethinking its role.

Few members would disagree that the U.N. has a long way to go to retrieve the esteem it used to enjoy.

The Arab identity

The historical formation of the Arab Nation

By A.A. Duri

Croom Helm, London 1987, £45.00

WRITTEN by one of the most distinguished Arab historians of his generation, and well translated by Lawrence I. Conrad, a gifted American Islamic scholar, this book is not a general history of the Arabs but a study of one important theme in it: The process by which there emerged a sense of Arab identity, and the idea that those who identified themselves as Arabs formed a nation.

BOOK REVIEW

Professor Duri has new and significant things to say about the way in which the term "Arab" changed its meaning with the coming of Islam. Before that time, the word referred to those who lived in the Arabian peninsula, moulded by the harsh necessities of life there, using different forms of Arabic and possessing a common oral culture expressed in it. After the expansion of Islam, and with it of the Arabic language, it came to be used to refer to all those, whatever their origin, from Spain to Iraq, who had adopted Arabic as their own language, and with it the Arab-Islamic culture.

In writing of this there is a danger of reading back into the distant past the ideas of the present, and writing of the Arabs in the early centuries of Islam as if they already formed a nation in the modern sense. Professor Duri is aware of this danger. The social and cultural consciousness of the Arabs, he tells us, did not take the political form of a national movement until modern times, "under the compass of internal challenges and foreign ideas"; but the form which that nationalistic took was derived from the distinctive Arab consciousness which arose in early Islamic times. He uses his wide reading in historical and literary sources to

illustrate this theme; among much else, he quotes the famous statement of Al Biruni (himself an Arabised Iranian): "Our faith and the empire are both Arabic and in complete harmony, with the divine power glistering over the one, and the heavenly hand over the other."

The second half of the book deals with what Professor Duri calls the second period, that of the 19th and early 20th centuries, when an explicitly nationalist movement, first Arab-Islamic and then Arab, appeared. This has been much studied since George Antonius wrote *The Arab Awakening*, but it is not easy to say anything new about it. But Professor Duri has new light to throw on some of the figures of the movement, such as Abd Al Hamid Al Zahrawi, Sheikh Arslan and Abd Al Ghani Al Urayssi. He does not carry the story further than the World War I, to the age of Gamal Abd Al Nasser, which can be regarded as the climax of the whole movement of national self-assertion.

What of the period lying between the first centuries of Islam and the modern age? Professor Duri has virtually nothing to say about the long generations of Ottoman rule, and perhaps he would justify his silence by arguing that Arab consciousness was dormant during this time, or at least did not develop in any significant way. There is a certain danger, however, in trying to write of "consciousness" in abstraction from the social structure within which it exists and with which it has a complex relationship; at the very least, the long experience of life within the Ottoman Empire must have helped to determine the ways in which Arab nationalism, when it finally emerged, expressed and organised itself.

Albert Hourani

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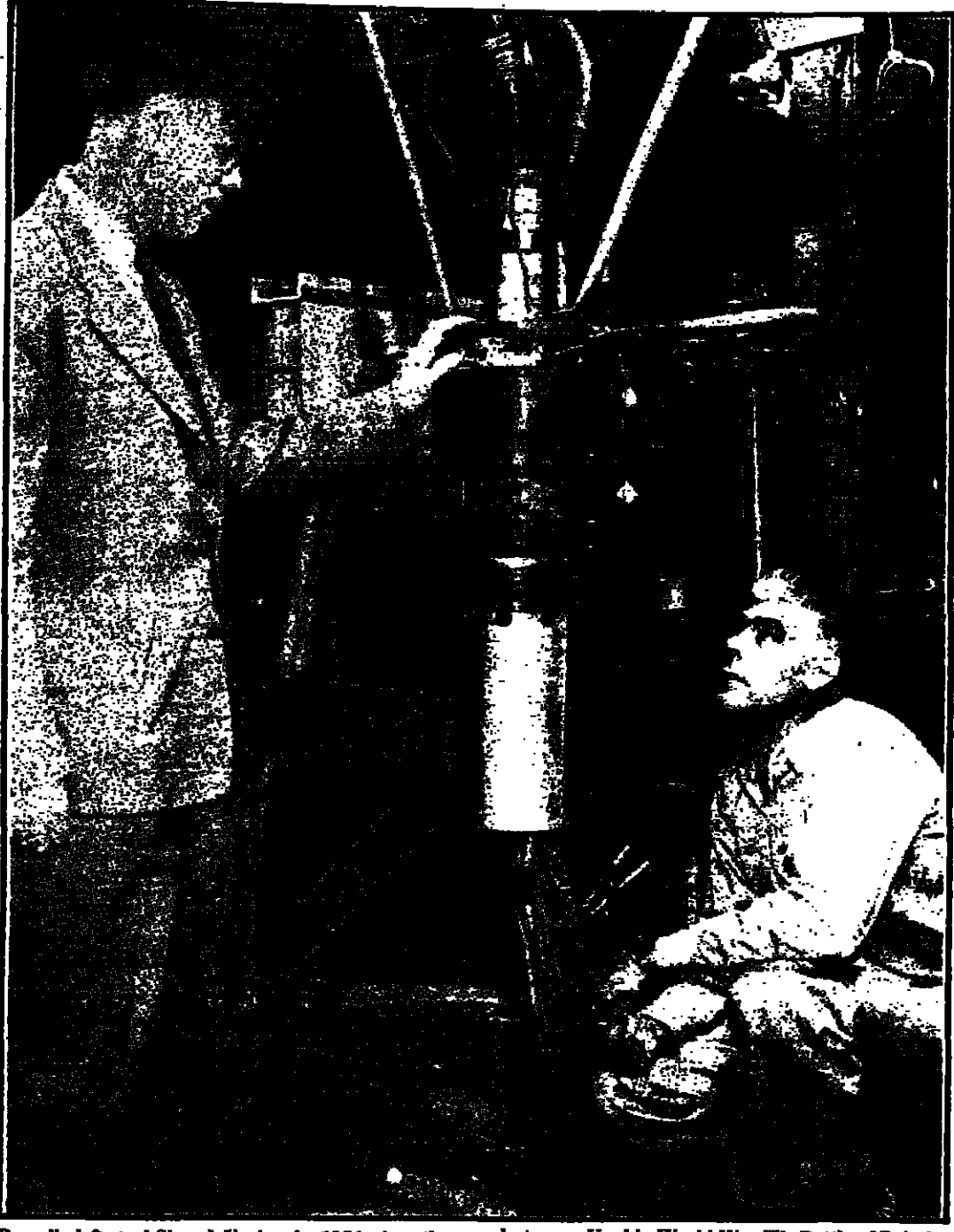
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Russell, left, and Sigurd Varian in 1956 view the invention that made them rich, if not famous: The klystron tube. The device that powers many of the 20th century's electronic miracles was 50 years old last year. Used in World War II's Battle of Britain, it may be deployed in the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Important but unsung, klystron tube turns 50

By Donald Smith
National Geographic

WASHINGTON — Maybe it's because klystron tubes are so inconspicuous: People can't see and touch them the way they can other scientific breakthroughs, such as light bulbs and telephones.

For whatever reason, 1987 was about to slip into history with hardly any public notice of the 50th anniversary of one of the most important inventions of the electronic era. The klystron is the Rodney Dangerfield of inventions. It gets hardly any respect. Klystrons are vacuum tubes that transmit and amplify microwave signals. They range from matchbook size to 6 feet tall.

"It's not really very sexy," says Joel Shurkin, a spokesman for Stanford University, where the tube was born in a physics laboratory. "It's sort of like a piece of plumbing."

Yet the tube is a basic element of equipment whose purposes range from television broadcasting to linear atom-smashers. Its usefulness in radar systems is credited with helping win the Battle of Britain in World War II. Today it helps protect U.S. Navy ships patrolling the Gulf.

The klystron's inventors were two brothers, Sigurd and Russell Varian, sons of an itinerant Irish poet-musician who immigrated to the United States with his wife in 1894 and joined fellow members of the Theosophical Society, a mystical religious sect, in Southern California.

Russell, the thinker of the duo, by all accounts was a good-hearted, ponderous bear of a man who stood 6 feet, 4 inches tall. His eventually diagnosed dyslexia led some of his teachers to believe he was slow-witted. Despite this handicap, he earned a master's degree in physics from Stanford.

The "doer" was ambitious, driven Sigurd, a dropout from California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo, who later suffered from mental illness. As an adventurous young Pan American World Airways pilot, Sigurd was a commercial-aviation pioneer in Central America in the early 1930s.

Sigurd was a cauldron of creative energy, whiling away long flights dreaming up ideas for things that had never been done before. Later, the brothers would talk and Russell would work on the scientific problems posed by Sigurd's epiphanies. If all went well, the dexterous Sigurd eventually would build working models.

"One out of every 40 ideas they had actually panned out," says Shurkin. "But those ideas were pretty good."

One of their pre-klystron brainstormings had a notably wild ring. For a while, the brothers worked on developing an internal-combustion engine that required a charge of dynamite to

get it started. Another project that Sigurd championed was using stencils and a metal spray gun to make circuits for radio sets. But Russell dismissed this concept, obviously a forerunner of printed circuits, as a "bum idea."

The story of the klystron, however, is a technological fairy tale. Everything worked out just right.

Sigurd's sometimes harrowing aviation experiences had instilled in him an abiding interest in improving airplane radar and navigation systems. He worried about the security of the Panama Canal, which he had often overflown, citing its vulnerability as evidence of the need for a better system of spotting enemy airplanes.

In 1936, Germany's increasingly accurate bombing of Spanish cities further illustrated how defenseless were urban populations against air attacks. Sigurd badgered Russell to help him find a solution.

The answer Russell came up with involved making electronic signals oscillate. Hence, the name the device eventually acquired, at the suggestion of a Stanford classics professor: The Greek word "klyso" connotes the bunching of waves on a beach.

The brothers needed a place to work on the device. They convinced Stanford to let them use the physics laboratory and to consult with the faculty. The uni-

versity would pay for \$100 worth of equipment they needed, in exchange for half their royalties.

On Aug. 30, 1937, Sigurd wrote that he threw the switch on the model he had constructed, "tuned the tube a little, and there were oscillations spread all over the fluorescent screen."

This was one of the brothers' ideas that worked fine. The family had always believed that the two would invent something that would make them all rich, and their dream came true with the founding of Varian Associates.

Today the Palo Alto, Calif., company manufactures a broad line of scientific equipment in addition to klystrons. It has 12,000 employees, nearly \$1 billion in annual sales, and offices all over the world. Stanford, too, has profited handsomely from its \$100 investment.

Russell, a dedicated environmentalist, died in 1959 of a heart attack at age 61 while on a Sierra Club trip to Alaska.

Two years later, Sigurd attempted to land his light plane at night on a beach at Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, as he had done previously. But that night, unexpectedly high waves that the 60-year-old flier couldn't see caught the undercarriage of his plane.

A companion managed to swim to shore from the wreck in spite of a fractured leg. But Sigurd's pelvis was broken. The father of the machine that makes electronic waves died in the breakers.

Versatile klystron's multiple uses

— Many long-distance telephone calls use microwave relays driven by klystrons.

— The radar at airports — for both weather forecasting and air traffic control — and the radar in the nose of airplanes use klystrons.

— Major ultrahigh-frequency television stations use klystrons to broadcast signals. The tubes are also used in cable television to relay the signal from a main hub to nearby communities.

— Ground crews use klystrons to communicate with space satellites. The U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration relies on klystrons for its deep-space network, which keeps in touch with spacecraft throughout the solar system and beyond.

— Many particle accelerators, especially those designed for high-energy physics research, use klystrons.

— Patients with some forms of cancer may be treated with radiation produced by small atomic accelerators run by klystrons.

— Klystrons are basic elements in U.S. defense systems. The proposed Strategic Defence Initiative, if it becomes reality, may use them.

Laser opens up blood vessels

AACHEN, West Germany — Using a new laser technique a start has been made by the Radiodiagnosis Department at the Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule in Aachen (Rheinisch-Westphalian Technical University) to remove blockages in the pelvic and leg arteries. A thin, fiber-glass cable, enveloped in a teflon sheath, and fitted with a metal cap, is inserted up to the occlusion. A 10-watt laser ray that is fed into the cable heats the

cap, which opens up the artery. Then the duct, which has now been cleared, is widened by means of a balloon catheter. 100 patients have already received this treatment in Great Britain. According to Professor Rolf Günther, the locations in West Germany concerned with this technique, Nuremberg, Düsseldorf and Aachen, are only now beginning to use the procedure — The German Research Service.

Ravaged Sudan province again faces hunger battle

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

EL OBEID, Sudan — Hunger is again stalking the people of Sudan's Kordofan region which was savaged by the devastating 1984-85 African drought that shocked the world.

In the Kordofan provincial capital El Obeid, 360 km southwest of Khartoum, officials and relief workers say up to a million people will need massive assistance if they are to survive 1988.

About 40,000 civil war refugees have also poured into Kordofan from the southern Bah Al Ghazal region, stretching the resources of the drought-plagued province.

"They came with nothing. I have never seen poorer or more destitute people in my life," said Andrew Shepherd, the UNICEF director in Kordofan responsible for war refugees.

The plight of the 800 km wide Kordofan region fits into a bleak picture in Sudan where at least three million people could starve later this year unless help arrives.

Apart from Kordofan, hundreds of thousands of people in west Darfur region, in eastern areas and in three southern regions will become destitute this year. Some are already.

Abdullah Al Toun, the top regional relief official, told Reuters that relief distribution had already started in the worst-hit parts of northern Kordofan.

The region needs 176,000 tonnes of sorghum, Sudan's main staple, to meet its needs in 1988, but Toun said the Khartoum government had reckoned Kordofan needed only 71,000 tonnes.

"We just hope for another survey of our sorghum crop to show that we underestimated the output this season," he added.

In four of the worst-hit districts of Kordofan crop failure is running at 75-100 per cent, according to a recent survey by a number of government departments and re-

lief agencies.

The 70-km journey from El Obeid to one district, Bara, shows the damage years of desert encroachment and drought have wrought on farmland in northern Kordofan.

On both sides of the dirt road snaking through an odd combination of yellow sand and pale green patches, only goats and camels, the arid-area survivors, were visible.

A handful of men could be seen. Water melons slightly bigger than tennis balls peppered the fields.

"They never made it to maturity," a Sudanese relief worker commented.

"We cultivated water melons and we cultivated sorghum but we harvested nothing," said a woman of Umm Zein village in Bara.

She tended a sapling which UNICEF, the U.N. children's fund, provided to fight desertification.

A mother of five in nearby Shag Al Noun village complained of a lack of water and the daily hardship of using a well more than a kilometre from her cone-shaped, thatched hut.

Umm Zein and Shag Al Noun have been provided with heavily subsidised relief sorghum for several months.

In Sodiri area 170 kms north-east of El Obeid, people get a monthly sorghum ration free.

However, grain merchants are not slow to cash in on the plight of Kordofan's destitutes. A 90-kilo bag of sorghum sells for 150 Sudanese pounds (\$33), almost double the official price, in Bara and Sodiri districts.

Shepherd said the government had supplied war refugees in Kordofan with grain and UNICEF provided medicine and set up children's feeding centres.

In areas east and south of Kadugli town in south Kordofan, raids by the rebel Sudan People's

Liberation Army (SPLA), pests, and erratic rains have disrupted agriculture.

Yet this area is considered to be facing a lesser threat of starvation than northern Kordofan.

Khartoum-based relief executives who held talks in mid-January with officials in Kordofan and Darfur said Kordofan's plight was expected to worsen as 1988 progresses.

Team members said Sudan would face a major disaster similar to 1984-85 if the next harvest was as bad as this year's.

The government has reported the 1987-88 sorghum and millet harvests as less than half the previous year's.

"When the rainy season begins this year, we shall be watching progress through the eye of a needle," a senior member of the group said.

Randa Habib's
Corner

Going for the centre

IT SEEMS that we have a special liking for "the middle of the road" approach to life and its daily routines. Look at the way we drive. We always choose to drive in the middle of the road, not really on the left, and not exactly on the right. Even when the road is marked into lanes, we drive exactly over the white line in the middle.

When we walk, and few of us do that these days, we also walk in the middle of the sidewalk, whenever we find one. If not, we walk in the middle of the street, just between the cars.

However, strolling on pavements is not without problems: Trees are almost always planted (you must have guessed) in the middle of the sidewalk. Furthermore, one must exercise care during the day, and use a torch at night, because most city streets are not lit. Lights, instead, are in the "middle" of nowhere, along highways and inter-city roads. And when we park our cars, we like to put them in the middle of the empty space, leaving ample space in front of the car and behind it, to enable us move it out later, with minimum effort. The space used by adopting this method could have been enough for two cars, but we find it so much more comfortable this way.

In our daily life, we keep repeating that the best way is the middle way. Not to overdo things and not to underdo them either.

Perhaps soon, we will reach the point when we will be that "reasonable" in everything we do — in our smoking, drinking, eating and extravagance. Then, we will be real centrists in every sense of the word.

I hope this column did not interrupt you while you were in the middle of something!

Brain cell transplant patients report Parkinson's improvement

By Sergio Carrillo
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Until a few months ago, Leonor Cruz Bello could barely eat without help.

Her face was stiff, her right arm paralysed. She dragged her right leg as she walked.

She has Parkinson's disease, a debilitating nervous system disorder which occurs when the brain does not produce adequate amounts of substance called dopamine.

But in September she underwent a revolutionary operation, which attracted worldwide attention.

Dr. Ignacio Madrazo and his team of surgeons performed a double brain tissue transplant in a Mexico City state hospital, using the tissue of a 13-week-old spontaneously aborted fetus.

"This is a window that has been opened for many people, like those that I met who are worse off than I was," Cruz said, as she demonstrated how she can move her right arm and walk, albeit slowly, with only a slight limp. Her facial stiffness has disappeared, and she can now eat by herself.

In the first brain tissue transplant ever reported, Madrazo operated on Cruz and another Parkinson's patient, Mario Tellez Martinez. Neither has shown any sign of rejecting the tissue.

"The operation was something that had to be done and we said, 'let's do it,'" said Cruz, a 35-year-old former secretary.

Although it is too early to assess the long-term effectiveness

of the procedure, Madrazo's patients voiced confidence.

"I've got a lot of faith in the result," Cruz said in her home in Ciudad Nezahualcoyotl, a working class city near Mexico City.

"I only thought of moving ahead, of at least stopping the disease's advance, and that has already been won," said Cruz.

"It was my 50th birthday they operated on me," said Tellez, a retired textile worker. "It was like being born again."

For nine years before the surgery, he had endured stiffness and uncontrollable shaking on his left side.

Now, he talks without difficulty, strolling the streets of his southern Mexico City neighbourhood with his grandchildren.

Only a slight shaking in his left hand remains as evidence of the disease.

"Now I'm waiting for the doctor to give me permission to start doing exercises and to run in the mornings," he added.

Their doctor shares their enthusiasm.

"This is only the opening of the door of a therapeutic process and what follows, apart from improving the technique, is to make a bank of brain tissues in order to attend to a greater number of patients," Madrazo told Reuters.

The exact cause of Parkinson's disease, named after 19th-century medical researcher James Parkinson, is not known. It is thought to affect one in 1,080 people, mainly the elderly.

The operations on Tellez and Cruz, performed as the two lay

side by side, lasted five hours.

They then spent six weeks in special isolation wards to avoid infection.

Madrazo, the 45-year-old chief of neurosurgery at Mexico City's La Raza Medical Centre, will observe the patients for a few more months before a final evaluation of the procedure.

But he said that he considers the acceptance of the implanted brain tissue as a significant step forward.

The operation, the fruit of 22 years Madrazo spent researching Parkinson's disease, should contribute toward developing treatment of other neurological disorders, including epilepsy and senility, he said.

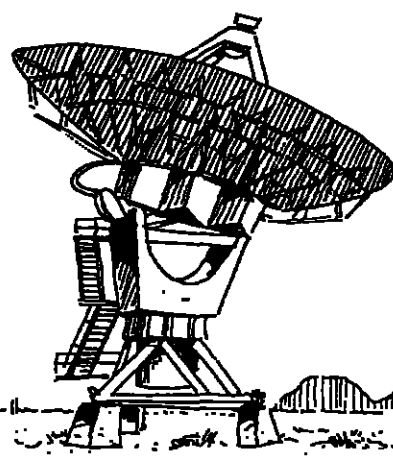
Madrazo was also involved in other experimental treatments for Parkinson's, in which parts of the patients' own adrenal glands were implanted in their brains — and which for a time aroused the interest of ex-boxer Mohammad Ali. But in some cases, dramatic initial improvements levelled off.

With limited technical and financial resources at his disposal, Madrazo chose to attempt the most obvious, but at the same time the most daring and ingenious procedure.

He said other researchers had ignored trying the brain tissue transplant on humans, despite encouraging results in animals.

"We did what the developing countries forgot to do," he said, adding with a laugh, "in some ways poverty helped us have more ingenuity than technology."

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC NEWS GRAPHIC



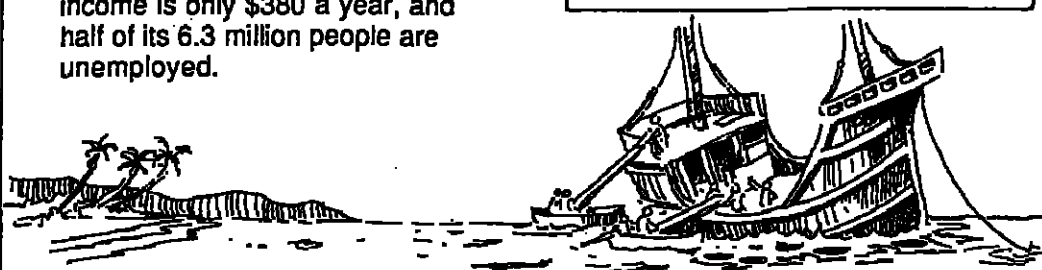
The 27 antennas of the **Very Large Array** telescope at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory in New Mexico operate like a single telescopic lens 23 miles across, reaching farther into space than any other telescope on earth.



In **Haiti**, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, per-capita income is only \$380 a year, and half of its 6.3 million people are unemployed.



The embalmed body of **Sultan Suleyman**, ruler of the Ottoman Empire for 46 years during the 1500s, was kept sitting behind drawn curtains for three weeks to keep his death a secret until a successor ascended the throne.



Archaeologists digging on the north coast of Haiti are uncovering fresh evidence that the site was the long-forgotten colony of **La Navidad**, where 39 of Christopher Columbus's crew on the Santa Maria settled briefly and died mysteriously.

© National Geographic Society Drawings by Stokes Walestry



The world's deepest hole is being drilled in the Federal Republic of Germany. So far, it has penetrated to 1,000 metres. The objective is 14 kilometres, where new facts about earthquakes and about the history of mineral resources are expected to emerge. (Photo INP/dpa)

Wilander cruises into open semifinals

MELBOURNE (Agencies) — Former champion Mats Wilander staked his claim for a third Australian Open crown when he cruised into the semifinals with a straight sets defeat of fellow Swede Anders Jarryd Wednesday.

Wilander joins Lendl and Wimbledon champion Pat Cash in the last four of the tournament.

Defending champion Edberg scrambled to a hard-fought four-set victory over gritty Soviet Andrei Chesnokov Wednesday night to advance to the semifinals of the \$1.9 million Australian Open tennis championships.

Edberg, 21, aiming to win the title for the third straight year, defeated Chesnokov 4-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 6-4 to earn a semifinal meeting with his friend and countryman Mats Wilander.

Two-time champion Wilander, the third seed, earlier defeated his sixth-seeded compatriot Anders Jarryd 7-6 (7-2), 6-2, 6-3 in a 2-hour, 41-minute quarterfinal battle of wills.

Second-seeded Edberg had fortune on his side against Chesnokov.

He was given a fortunate over-rule from French umpire Bruno Rebeuh at 5-5 when he appeared to have hit a forehand wide.

He won the replayed point, took the tiebreaker and gradually fought his way into control of the encounter.

Chesnokov hit a succession of superb passing shots in the first two sets and it took Edberg more than an hour to get his serve-and-volley game working.

Wilander, winner of back-to-back titles in 1983 and 1984, cracked open sixth-seeded Jarryd's game to win the 161-minute baseline duel 7-6, 6-2, 6-3.

Seeded third behind Ivan Lendl and defending champion Stefan Edberg, Wilander was far the steadier player in the quarter-

final, played in a gusting wind. Wilander, who did not play at last year's open at Kooyong, has now made the semifinals or better in his last four appearances in the Grand Slam event.

The 22-year-old Swede capitalised on Jarryd's growing weariness after grinding out the first set in 80 minutes on the medium-fast rebound ace court.

Jarryd, ranked 15th in the world and battling to re-establish his top 10 standing after a series of injuries last year, was obviously feeling the strain of his four-hour fourth round clash against Australian John Frawley Monday night.

"I knew that if I got the first set he would find it hard to get back

into the match because he was tired from the other match," said Wilander, who now faces either Edberg or Russian Andrei Chesnokov for a place in Sunday's final.

"I felt tense going into the match. It was definitely tougher than it looked."

Wilander broke Jarryd twice in the second set and once in the third by moving to the net and leaving his rival stranded on the baseline with some sharp volleying and drop shots.

"I suffered a little from the Frawley match," said Jarryd. "After two hours I didn't feel so sharp anymore. Even if I had got that first set I would still have lost because I felt so tired in my legs."



GRACEFUL PAUSE: The West German 'Ice Princess' Claudia Leistner in a dress rehearsal for the Olympic medal in Calgary, Canada. (Photo INP/Sven Simon)

Moroccan Open switched to autumn

VIRGINIA WATER, England (AP) — The Moroccan Open has been switched from the first week in March to the autumn portion of the PGA European tour, officials said Wednesday. A statement from the tour headquarters said officials of the Royal Moroccan Golf Federation had "reluctantly asked" for the postponement following the re-seeding of three fairways and delays in reopening the tournament hotel at the Dar Es Salaam Course, Ken Schofield, the tour's executive director, said no firm dates had been set for the event but "we are working with the federation to re-position the championship in our late-season schedule." The Moroccan Open, a new event on the European tour last year, had been scheduled for March 3-6.

EMBASSY OF INDIA, AMMAN (JORDAN) REPUBLIC DAY

To mark the Republic Day of India, a flag-hoisting ceremony will take place on Tuesday, January 26, 1988 at 10.00 a.m. at the Embassy of India, First Circle, Jabal Amman. All Indian nationals are cordially invited to attend.

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Pls call: 682055 between 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. 16 p.m. to 18 p.m.

UEFA postpones verdict on reinstating F.L. clubs

MONTE CARLO (R) — European soccer chiefs deferred a decision on the readmission of English teams to Europe's three club competitions Wednesday, but left the way open for a return next season.

The European Football Union (UEFA) turned down a Scottish move for an immediate end to the ban imposed after the Heysel Stadium riots in 1985 when 39 spectators died before the European Cup final in Brussels between Liverpool and Juventus.

The decision on the return of England's clubs to the Champions' Cup Winners' and UEFA cups will now be made at the next executive committee meeting in St. Andrews, Scotland, in May, and English officials here said they remained optimistic their clubs would be competing next season.

"I am very optimistic there will be readmission soon," said Football Association (F.A.) chairman Bert Millichip.

Football League (F.L.) President Philip Carter told Reuters: "I am positive that with the presentation we made... and providing we have no difficulties both on the local scene and in Europe... we will be back."

Millichip, who with Carter presented England's case to UEFA,

told reporters he was optimistic clubs would be readmitted if British fans behaved during this summer's European Championship in West Germany.

UEFA sources who attended Wednesday's meeting said all 12 committee members favoured an English return even before Millichip and Carter had addressed them.

But UEFA President Jacques Georges, who told a news conference the final decision would be taken at St. Andrews, said several details on how England's readmission would be carried out still needed to be studied.

Those details included what to do with Liverpool if, as expected, the club wins the championship this year. Liverpool were banned for a further three years after the eventual readmission of English clubs because of their fans' involvement in the Heysel disaster.

The question of what would happen if foreign governments refused to allow English clubs to play in their countries would also have to be considered, Georges said.

The UEFA president also said that even if UEFA reinstated English clubs, the decision could be reversed if England fans caused trouble during the European Championship finals.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

2 Jordanian strollers leave for S. Arabia

MA'AN (Petra) — Two Jordanian travellers, who set out on tour round the world on foot, left Wednesday for Saudi Arabia at the start of their seven-year journey. The seven-year trek will take Nayef Da'ajeh and Isam Roud to countries worldwide.

ITF announces Olympics players

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Swedish ace Stefan Edberg and Mats Wilander and West German Boris Becker head the list of direct entries for the Olympics tennis competition, a tennis official said Wednesday. International Tennis Federation (ITF) President Philipp Chatrier said the play at the Seoul Games in South Korea would be held Sept. 20 to Oct. 1. Edberg and Wilander, ranked second and third in the world, and fifth-ranked two-time Wimbledon champion Becker were among 64 players listed by the ITF as direct acceptances into the main draw events. Chatrier said 70 nations have entered the tennis competition. Among those who will have to play through qualifying events are former U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion John McEnroe.

Finn driver takes rally's overall lead after 19th leg

MOUDJERIA, Mauritania (AP) — Juha Kankkunen of Finland took the overall lead Tuesday after the 19th stage of the 12,874-kilometre Paris-Dakar Rally following the elimination of Ari Vatanen, who had been leading the race since the first African stage.

In Paris, Frenchman Jean-Claude Huger died from head injuries suffered when he fell off his motorcycle Sunday in the stage from Timbuktu to Nampala, Mali.

Huger, 32, became the 24th person to die in the 10-year history of the rally and the fifth since this year's rally left Paris on Jan.

On Monday, a 10-year-old girl was killed by a car racing through a village in western Mali. Dutch driver Kees van Loeven and French driver Patrice Canedo were killed in accidents during the first 10 days of the three-week rally. The fifth victim died when a car ran over him while he was asleep at a rally bivouac.

Commissioners of the Paris-Dakar Rally ruled early Tuesday that Vatanen, of Finland, the overall leader in the car-track division in his Peugeot 405, was disqualified because he turned up late for the start of Monday's 18th leg.

THE Daily Crossword by Diana C. Baldwin

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Vicky and Baden	10 Rip
2 Tie	11 Bunkie
3 10 Rip	12 Smiler
4 14 Bunkie	13 To shelter
5 15 Smiler	14 "Ooo —"
6 16 Healer	15 Where Anna
7 17 To shelter	16 Freshness
8 "Ooo —"	17 Buns
9 Where Anna	18 Tropical cuckoo
10 Rip	19 Swiss fare
11 Bunkie	20 Conjuror
12 Smiler	21 Women's stand
13 To shelter	22 Tailed orbiter
14 "Ooo —"	23 1,501
15 Where Anna	24 Uncontrolled
16 Freshness	25 Homes for bats
17 Buns	26 Approach
18 Tropical cuckoo	27 Holiday time
19 Swiss fare	28 Memento
20 Conjuror	29 Season
21 Women's stand	30 Fated
22 Tailed orbiter	31 Mountain ridge
23 1,501	32 Standard
24 Uncontrolled	33 Stumble
25 Homes for bats	34 Kentucky Derby
26 Approach	35 Strain
27 Holiday time	36 Liberties
28 Memento	37 Italy's capital
29 Season	38 Fuss
30 Fated	39 Silverback
31 Mountain ridge	40 role
32 Standard	41 Mine opening
33 Stumble	42 Biblical prophet
34 Kentucky Derby	43 Lie
35 Strain	44 Overdue
36 Liberties	
37 Italy's capital	
38 Fuss	
39 Silverback	
40 role	
41 Mine opening	
42 Biblical prophet	
43 Lie	
44 Overdue	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvent:

Across: 1. Vicky and Baden; 2. Tie; 3. 10 Rip; 4. 14 Bunkie; 5. 15 Smiler; 6. 16 Healer; 7. 17 To shelter; 8. "Ooo —"; 9. Where Anna; 10. Rip; 11. Bunkie; 12. Smiler; 13. To shelter; 14. "Ooo —"; 15. Where Anna; 16. Freshness; 17. Buns; 18. Tropical cuckoo; 19. Swiss fare; 20. Conjuror; 21. Women's stand; 22. Tailed orbiter; 23. 1,501; 24. Uncontrolled; 25. Homes for bats; 26. Approach; 27. Holiday time; 28. Memento; 29. Season; 30. Fated; 31. Mountain ridge; 32. Standard; 33. Stumble; 34. Kentucky Derby; 35. Strain; 36. Liberties; 37. Italy's capital; 38. Fuss; 39. Silverback; 40. role; 41. Mine opening; 42. Biblical prophet; 43. Lie; 44. Overdue.

East Germans look set for usual medal spree at Calgary

EAST BERLIN (R) — When the mighty East German sports machine rolls into Calgary next month for the 1988 Winter Olympics it can expect to return home with the usual sackful of assorted medals.

With talent like speedskater Karin Kania, who won four medals at Sarajevo in 1984, double Olympic bobsleigh champion Wolfgang Hoppe and heartthrob figure skater Katarina Witt, the question for the East German selectors would appear to be not who to choose, but who to leave out.

East Germany have strong medal hopes in luge, bobsleigh, speedskating, figure skating, biathlon and ski jumping.

Twenty years after Grenoble, when East Germany marched into the Olympic arena for the first time as an independent team and promptly won five medals, the East Bloc sports miracle must collect nine golds, nine silver and six bronze medals just to match their 1984 performance.

But their winter sports skills are not all-encompassing and odds on medals in Nordic skiing and combination events are long. Also, East Germany, with a

population of just 16.6 million, have yet to make the grade in ice hockey — there are only two domestic teams — and there will be no Olympic Alpine skiing team.

Though the various Olympic coaches will announce their choices only at the end of January, the backbone of the squad is already clear.

Speedskating

Kania, 26, who plans to quit this year to set up a beauty parlour, will head a seemingly invincible women's team which should include fellow world record holders Gabi Zange-Schoenbrunn and Christa Rothenburger.

Kania, East Germany's most successful ever Winter Olympic athlete, has said she wants to win medals over all five distances and strike gold in the 1,000 and 1,500 metres.

Olympic 500 metres champion Rothenburger swiped the world record for the sprint at a World Cup meeting at the Calgary indoor rink last month from American Bonnie Blair, the biggest single threat to the East Germans after the Russians.

Zange-Schoenbrunn also set a world record that weekend in the 3,000 metres, the event in which she won bronze in 1984.

For the men, Andre Hoffmann and Uwe-Jens Mey offer medal prospects over the shorter dis-

tances if they can fight off the stiff Soviet competition.

Figure skating

World, European and Olympic champion Witt hopes to clinch yet another title at Calgary with a stunning new free skating programme to Bizer's Carmen before retiring. But it will be a closely-fought affair with American arch-rival Debi Thomas.

But apart from Witt, the team will comprise relative novices and outsiders, including Simone Koch and Michael Hub.

Bobsleigh: Equipped with the world's fastest and most coveted sleds, the East German Bob team can conservatively expect some form of medal in both the two and four-man events.

Hoppe, 30, arguably the world's best driver, could well steer both teams to victory to retain his Olympic crowns in the two disciplines.

The second East German two and four-man crews, piloted by veteran Bernhard Lehmann, will be battling to clinch both silvers again.

Luge

Reigning Olympic women's champion Steffi Walter-Martin has slipped successfully back on the circuit after a year out to have a baby, but world champion Cerstin Schmidt looks likely to make the running in the challenge to the Russians.

Joerg Hoffmann and Jochea

Pietzsch will be aiming to better their huge two-seater Olympic bronze, while Jens Mueller and Michael Walter are possible medal contenders in the single-seat category.

Ski jumping

Jens Weissflog, Olympic 90-metre champion and 70-metre silver medalist, has the same problem facing many Olympic ski jumpers — how to match the spectacular leaps of Finland's 70-metre Olympic champion Matti Nykanen.

"He has reached a peak in performance, he's in a class of his own... I'm happy to be up with the front-runners before the Olympics without having to be favourite," said Weissflog, whose team mates are well down the field.

Biathlon

Frank-Peter Roetsch, second over 20 km in 1984 and triple world champion in 1987, is a strong medal contender, along with 10 km bronze Olympic medalist Matthias Jacob.

Nordic skiing/combination: With mostly young and inexperienced skiers, East Germany have slim chances of success. But Simone Opitz and Silke Braun for the women and Uwe Bellmann and Holger Bauroth for the men are names to watch in the Nordic skiing, while Heiko Hunger is an outside shot in the Nordic combination.

Aussies win cricket clash against Kiwis

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (Agencies) — The Australian women cricketers won the first of a three-match series by eight runs Wednesday.

Runs were always at a premium on the slow pitch, but the visitors had the edge with their hitting power, finding the boundary 18 times. A six was also scored.

The New Zealanders, defending the Shell Rose Bowl, failed to put the fielders under pressure and could have coasted home if batters had run more positively between the wickets.

The Australians, asked to bat first after losing the toss, began well. Ruth Buckstein and Shariene Heywood scored 87 in 93 minutes.

Heywood, who hit seven fours and a six, was taken by skipper Debbie Hockley from the off-spin of Nancy Williams.

Belinda Haggett consolidated the position, scoring 33 in 72 minutes.

Australia reached 197 in 213 minutes before Lyn Fullston was bowled by Brigit Legg with the last ball of the innings.

New Zealand made a solid, if slow start.

Jackie Clark and Penny Kinsella scored 96 for the first wicket in 115 minutes.

They accelerated the scoring rate once they had seen off the front-line of the Australian attack — Zoe Goss and Karen Brown — who between them bowled the first 12 overs at a cost of 19.

The regular central districts opening pair then prospered. Kinsella was the first to go for 53, including seven fours. Clark followed 11 minutes and eight runs later.

Hockley hit hard and straight from the outset, but rarely penetrated the field.

She needed 72 minutes and 52 deliveries for her 26. Lesley Murdoch took 32 minutes in scoring four.

With only three wickets down, and with 16 overs and 70 runs at less than 4½ an over needed, New Zealand were still on course.

Ingrid Jagersma was twice dropped by Buckstein, but batters in the lower order failed to show sufficient urgency to swing the game away from the visitors.

Three runouts scarcely helped the New Zealand cause.

At the start of the penultimate over, with three wickets in hand, 18 runs were needed.

New Zealand needed 14 to win from the last over. Hockley said later that the 10 or so runs her side had conceded through sloppy

work in the field proved to be the difference between the sides.

The second game of the series will be in Christchurch Saturday.

Marsh emerges from form slump

In Sydney, Australia, opener Geoff Marsh emerged from the doldrums with a century to give Australia a respectable total to defend in the World Series Cricket Cup clash with New Zealand Wednesday.

Marsh contributed 101 off 148 deliveries in Australia's 50-over total of 8-221 after skipper Allan Border won the toss.

It was the Western Australian's fifth century in international one-day cricket and his second against the Kiwis.

Marsh batted for all but three minutes of the Australian innings and it would have been appropriate had he managed to carry his bat.

The New Zealand attack, without Richard Hadlee who was rested, contained the Australian top order until a 57-run fifth wicket stand between Border and Marsh in 43 minutes.

The bowling honours were shared with all six New Zealand bowlers used getting wickets.

Best was Ewen Chatfield with 2-26 from his 10 overs.

The Sydney cricket ground was almost filled to its 42,000 capacity and officials issued appeals for the public to stay away.

The game is a dress rehearsal for the finals series between the two countries starting in Melbourne Friday.

Aussie fans attacked

New Zealand strike bowler Richard Hadlee said Wednesday Australian cricket crowds were among the worst in the world.

Hadlee, New Zealand's key player in the three-match World Series Cup finals starting in Melbourne Friday, said the crowds had constantly jeered him and his parents during matches in Brisbane and Hobart.

Australian crowds at the world series group matches last week carried banners reading: "Do we like Hadlee? — Hardlee."

"When it's personalised abuse it's lack of respect for what I've stood for and what I've achieved in the game of cricket," Hadlee told reporters.

"It's totally unnecessary and if it's going to continue then unfortunately Australians are going to get a bad image around the world."

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PLAZA

BEVERLY HILLS COP II

Performances: 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13

More ships dock at Aqaba

AMMAN (Petra) — A statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Wednesday revealed that 229 ships and cargo vessels docked at the port of Aqaba last year compared with 215 in the previous year.

The bulletin also revealed that passengers arriving in Aqaba by sea last year were 29,716 compared with 26,727 in 1986 and that a total of 2,869 million tonnes of goods were imported or exported through the port during 1987 compared with 1,297 million tonnes in 1986.

SSC pays compensation

ZARQA (J.T.) — The Social Security Corporation's (SSC) Zarqa branch has embarked on paying compensation to citizens covered by the SSC law within the Zarqa governorate, according to the director of the SSC's department here Akaf Hallowish. He said that the SSC's branch has been authorised to conduct all matters related to beneficiaries who are entitled to lump sum compensation. At present, Hallowish said the SSC department is conducting a comprehensive survey in the Zarqa governorate to cover more institutions and companies and their employees by the SSC law. Today, he added 43 institutions, municipalities and companies employing 22,000 people are covered by this law.

Jordan-Kenya trade opportunities exist

AMMAN (J.T.) — The opportunity exists for exporting a large number of Jordanian products to Kenya and importing Kenyan products, according to the Amman Chamber of Commerce. A chamber spokesman was quoted by Al-Dustour newspaper as saying that Jordan can export medicines, fertilisers, leather, shoes, gas ranges, cables, electric wires, and sanitary equipment to Kenya and can import coffee, tea, raw leather, fruit, live sheep and tyres from Kenya.

JVFA helps local farmers

AL-MASHARIF (Petra) — The Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA) last year granted 54 local farmers a total of JD 3,873 in loans. JVFA office director here Ahmad Radadiah said the office last year conducted guidance services to the farmers, specially, in employing modern techniques in agriculture and combatting agripests.

Sharjah to introduce five-year plan

SHARJAH (OPECNA) — Sharjah, one of the seven emirates that form the federation of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), is planning a five-year development plan beginning in 1989 for the development of various economic sectors, including hydrocarbons and land.

The announcement came after a meeting of the management development committee presided over by the emirate's ruler Sheikh Sultan bin Mohammed Al Qassimi.

The ruler told reporters that an improvement of 15 per cent in market movements here was an indication that confidence in the emirate's economy had been revived.

He disclosed that an international company had offered to invest \$100 million in a project in Sharjah, adding that at least 16 other vital industries were likely to be established.

In addition, the emirate is to embark on restructuring the public sector to upgrade the efficiency and performance of its 6,700 employees.

Toyota and Nissan exports fall

TOKYO (R) — Japan's two biggest car makers Tuesday announced a slump in last year's export figures with most of the drop in the United States, where the stronger yen has forced them to raise prices.

Toyota's exports fell more than five per cent in 1987, to 1.77 million vehicles, while those of Nissan dropped more than 10 per cent, to 1.17 million, the companies announced in separate statements.

The drop in exports mainly occurred to the United States, where the strong yen forced Japanese automakers to raise prices and lose sales. Both companies were able to increase shipments to Europe slightly.

"The strong yen reduced our competitiveness in the United States because we had to increase prices," a Toyota spokesman said in a telephone interview.

The company raised suggested retail prices of its 1988 models in the U.S. by an average of 1.4 per cent, or \$163, from Jan. 15.

Although the yen has risen sharply against the dollar since mid-1987, it has remained flat or less steady against European currencies, enabling Japanese car makers to retain their competitive edge in the European market.

Toyota's exports to the United States fell more than 12 per cent last year to 906,739 vehicles, but those to Europe rose about one-and-a-half per cent, to 412,913.

Nissan's exports to the United States dropped nearly 19 per cent to 547,779 vehicles last year.

Jordan faces investment challenge

The following article is reprinted from the Arab Banking Corporation (ABC) Economic & Financial Quarterly bulletin (Dec. 1987, No. 2), produced by ABC's International Division in London.

LONDON — Jordan's prospects for meeting the objectives of its Third Five-Year Plan (1986-90) have improved with some easing in the constraints that were evident when the Plan was formulated in 1986. The Plan's targets for the first year or so were modest reflecting the then generally weak domestic and regional economic environment. In 1987, however, there have been signs of an upturn in economic activity in the region largely due to the strength and stability of oil prices. Since Jordan's economic performance is closely linked to that of the Arab oil-producing countries, this suggests a brighter economic outlook than was the case in the initial year of the plan. Nevertheless, in the next three years Jordan faces a major challenge in mobilising and channelling private and public sector resources into the Plan's investment programme (summarised below) in order to achieve the

Third Five-Year Plan Objectives	Investment Outlays (JD m)		
	Private Sector	Public Sector	Total
Infrastructure	350.8	839.7	1,190.5
Productive Sectors	531.3	139.7	671.0
Agriculture	(210.5)	(83.3)	(293.8)
Mining & Manufacturing	(340.8)	(52.4)	(393.2)
Social, Services & Other	580.0	658.0	1,238.0
Total Fixed Capital Formation	1,482.1	1,634.4	3,116.5

Annual Sectoral Growth Targets (% avg.)

	1981-85 (actual)	1986-90 (projected)
--	------------------	---------------------

Agriculture	7.0	7.8
Mining & Quarrying	4.9	7.8
Manufacturing	9.6	6.9
Electricity & Water	4.6	4.7
Construction	2.3	4.0
Services	3.7	4.3
GDP (at factor cost)	4.2	5.0

Source: Ministry of Planning.

average real rate of GDP growth of 5 per cent and the creation of 97,000 new jobs.

The private sector's share of total investment outlays is projected at 48 per cent over the plan period, which includes the capital spending of entities which have both public and private shareholders. Importantly, private industry is expected to contribute 80 per cent of the investment in productive areas, that is, agriculture, mining and manufacturing. In keeping with Jordan's economic philosophy, the government's role is primarily to provide the necessary infrastructural support and is set to contribute 70 per cent of the total investment in this area. Despite the moderate target set in 1986, private investment — possibly excluding that of the 'mixed' enterprises — was below expectations, but this was not unexpected given the uncertain economic situation. With a firmer outlook presently prevailing, the private sector is likely to be less inhibited in its investment commitments.

One aspect of concern for growth in private fixed capital formation, however, is the extent of government borrowing in domestic credit markets which, if excessive, has a tendency to crowd out the private sector. In the first half of 1987, the central government budget deficit at JD 103 million was 34 per cent higher than in the same period in 1986 and was largely financed internally (it is important to note that foreign borrowing is generally recorded as government revenue). Moreover, this did not include borrowing by other official entities. Undoubtedly, the recent surge in government spending has been motivated by the need to stimulate the economy in the absence of significant private initiative. However, although the government appears committed to match current expenditures and domestic revenues by 1990, this goal will become increasingly difficult if the present trend in spending continues.

Over the plan period, the mixed entities, which are mostly involved in the natural resource-based industries, are in a relatively strong position to meet their investment commitments. These industries, which include phosphate, potash, fertilisers and cement, account for about 60 per cent of manufacturing and mining output. Notable among them is the Jordan Phosphate Mining Company (JPMC) which is the main foreign exchange earner

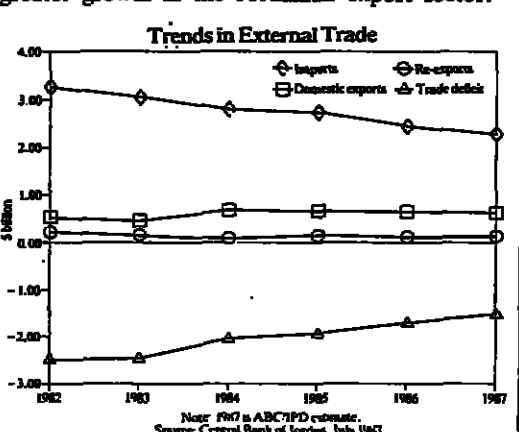
and the most profitable. As such, its plans to raise 75 per cent (JD 20 million) of the finance needed for the Shidiya phosphate mining project through a share issue are likely to be well-received.

Jordan has been fairly successful in arranging aid commitments from Western donors although grants and soft loans from Arab countries have been below levels received in past years. There are indications, however, that following the Arab summit in November aid from the Gulf oil-producing states will be more forthcoming. Importantly, remittances from the country's overseas workers have been steady even in 1986 when there was concern that the regional recession might lead to a drop in transfers, and it is likely that future remittance flows will be at least as stable as their current \$1.2 billion level. Under present circumstances, however, it must be deemed difficult for Jordan to meet its planned resource requirements from 'traditional' sources. This does not imply that the investment and, consequently, sectoral objectives of the Third Plan are not feasible. Rather, a way will likely require an increase in non-concessional borrowing. Jordan's past cautiousness in this regard will now be advantageous if borrowing commercially on an increased scale becomes necessary. Currently, government and government-guaranteed external debt stands at \$3.4 billion representing slightly less than 60 per cent of GNP.

In the event that the government opts for such a strategy, it would appear capable of supporting it judging by recent trends in the balance of payments. In 1986, both the trade and current account deficits narrowed to \$1.7 billion and \$3.8 million respectively from peaks of \$2.5 billion in 1982 and \$390.7 million in 1983. In the first seven months of 1987 this trend was maintained with the trade deficit falling to \$920 million compared with \$1 billion in the similar period in 1986. This was achieved through a combination of higher exports (up by about 7 per cent) and lower imports (down by 8 per cent). The January through May figures for 1987 indicate, however, that the doubling in value of re-exports to \$52 million was primarily responsible for the latest improvement in the trade picture. Indeed, domestic exports (in JD terms) have been falling since 1984 although exports of phosphates have been relatively steady despite lower world prices.

The downturn in the regional economy has been partly responsible for the weakness in exports, but it has also been pointed out that Jordan's overvalued exchange rate has made it less competitive. While it is conceivable that a devaluation of the dinar would enhance export performance, the government is of the opinion that, on balance, the overall effect on the economy would not be beneficial. On the contrary, it is felt that it is precisely the stability of the dinar that has encouraged workers' remittances and savings. The government's present policy is to let the dinar drift slowly downwards.

In conclusion, over the next three years, Jordan faces a difficult but not insurmountable task to fulfil the objectives of its Third Five-Year Plan. In light of a high population growth rate and a growing proportion of the young entering the workforce, the most crucial target is the creation of 97,000 new jobs. Such an achievement would require a 5 per cent growth rate of the economy which in turn depends on the country marshalling resources for the Plan's investment programme. Both traditional (Arab and Western aid, and remittances) and non-traditional (non-concessional borrowings) sources will need to be tapped. Successful implementation of commercially-financed development, however, will necessitate greater growth in the Jordanian export sector.



Saudi interest rates soar

BAHRAIN (R) — Saudi Arabia's decision to freeze a round of tariff increases triggered a bout of heavy speculation against the rial Wednesday and pushed domestic interest rates to their highest level for over a year.

Traders said the policy turn, the second within two weeks after controversial plans to tax foreigners were cancelled, triggered speculation that Saudi Arabia's budget planners would have to devalue the rial to help plug its 1988 budget deficit.

The shortfall is estimated officially at 35.9 billion riyals or \$9.6 billion and the tax levy and increased customs duties had been seen as key sources of extra revenue to compensate for soft prices on world oil markets.

King Fahd ordered the suspension of tariff increases late Monday in a climb-down which some bankers in the kingdom see as damaging the credibility of the government's economic planning.

In early January, King Fahd revoked plans to reimpose income tax on foreigners — scrapped in 1975 — after a public outcry and mass resignations at hospitals and in the key financial sector.

Traders said markets reacted by speculating heavily against the rial, betting on a devaluation from its parity of 3.75 to the U.S. dollar which has been in force since June 1986.

A devaluation would increase the value of the kingdom's dollar-denominated oil exports when transferred into local currency, but also has disadvantages, making imports into the kingdom more expensive for consumers and industry.

IMF to ease loan terms

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) proposed Tuesday more flexibility in loan policies to counter the charge that the terms are too harsh for poor countries in financial trouble.

But the official, Michael Camdessus, also complained that some governments seek the fund's help only after delaying so long that they have to agree to harder conditions than might otherwise be the case.

"This is a vicious circle," Camdessus said in a speech prepared for a conference in Singapore of the governors of central banks in countries of Southeast Asia. Copies were released by the fund's headquarters in Washington.

The fund is owned by 152 governments, with the United States holding the largest block of shares. It had nearly \$44 billion worth of loans outstanding at the end of November.

On Monday, the World Bank, the fund's sister organisation, published a report that Third World debt would reach \$1.245 trillion by the end of this year. It said the extent of the debt would cause many people in African and other debtor countries to fall back into poverty.

U.S.-Japan trade gap widens

Dollar goes down as gold moves up

NEW YORK (AP) — News of a widening trade gap between the United States and Japan pressured the dollar lower against the Japanese yen in the currency markets Tuesday, while gold prices inched upward.

At the Republic National Bank of New York, gold was bid at \$477.50 a troy ounce at 4 p.m. est (2100 GMT), up from \$476.40 late Monday.

The dollar was hit hardest in Asia, where the trading day began, closing in Tokyo at 128.90 Japanese yen, down from 130.50 Monday.

Later, in New York, it traded at 128.675 yen, down from 129.60 late Monday.

The dollar lost ground in late U.S. trading against most other major currencies but managed slight gains against the British pound and the West German mark compared to late Monday levels.

Analysts said the report on the Japanese trade surplus, although expected, had revived worries about the dollar, which only Friday had rallied in response to a positive trade report from U.S. officials.

"The numbers from Japan threw a little cold water on the dollar," said James Vick, senior corporate trader for Manufacturers Hanover Corp.

U.S. officials reported Friday that the nation's trade deficit

narrowed to \$13.2 billion in November, but the Japanese report, which tallied December figures, showed Japan was still running a big surplus with the United States.

The surplus in trade with the United States climbed to \$4.9 billion last month, up from 4.7 billion the previous December and 4.2 billion in November, according to the Japanese report.

Overall, the Japanese trading surplus declined for 1987 by about \$3 billion to 79.8 billion, but the report still made currency traders nervous. Faced with conflicting evidence about the trade picture, traders were unwilling to give the dollar the benefit of the doubt.

"Some thought Friday's numbers would trigger some sustained dollar buying... but I think that hope is fading," observed Vick.

Others said the dollar had retreated to a trading range with a ceiling imposed by trade doubts and a floor of support provided by the world's central banks, which have intervened to support the currency by buying dollars in the open market in recent weeks.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares stood above their lows in late trading with few features emerging to provide direction, dealers said. The FTSE 100 index reached a low for the day of 1,748.8 at 1442 GMT after the New York market showed an early drop of nearly 18 points, but later recovered with Wall Street.

Operators reported little activity with only Britoil's announcement that an independent survey had placed its asset value at £3.53 billion or 699p per share causing any real buying interest. Britoil shares stood 19p firmer at 473 after reaching a high of 477.

At 1530 GMT, the FTSE stood 144 points lower at 1,753.1. Britoil is the subject of a £2.27 billion, 450p per share bid from B.P. which now holds 29.9 per cent, of Britoil while Atlantic Richfield, which has steadily increased its stake in the company, holds 24.03 per cent. Partly-paid B.P. shares were the second most active Wednesday, 1p lower at 74 on volume of 8.4 million.

Analysts said for investment purposes, a sum of around 180p covering technical reserves, exploration acreage and tax relief on exploration costs should be stripped from the 699p per share.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One Sterling	1.7920/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2855/65	Canadian dollar
	1.6620/30	Deutsche marks
	1.8686/96	Dutch guilders
	1.3517/27	Swiss francs
	34.71/74	Belgian francs
	5.6110/40	French francs
	1221/1222	Italian lire
	127.55/65	Japanese yen
	5.9870/9920	Swedish crowns
	6.3500/50	Norwegian crowns
	6.3850/3900	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	477.75/478.25	U.S. dollars

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Flighter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You may feel a bit restless or discontented today, but you must overcome this tendency and concentrate on arranging a schedule which will help you to increase your productivity and security.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) This is not a good day to begin any new venture, but it is a fine time to improve your present situation. Be considerate to your mate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you have made a promise which you cannot keep at this time, explain the situation clearly. Enjoy the company of friends tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) An associate may want to revise an agreement you have made, but it's important that you keep to your schedule and get your work done.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Even though you may be busy at your job, you'll still have time to check out an opportunity for some added income.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Although you are anxious to have a good time, there are obligations you have to meet first, so get busy at them early and relax later.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't let some problems at home

interfere with important dealings in the business world. Be more cooperative with your co-workers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Stop running around aimlessly; sit down and work out a practical plan. Dealing fairly and squarely with others will bring you greater success.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) This is a good day to enjoy some recreation and put aside any monetary worries you may have. This will improve your mood.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Focus your energy on improving the conditions at home and establishing more harmony there. Postpone your personal desires.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Being direct and to-the-point will get you exactly what you want. If you want to enjoy a hobby, be sure to stay within your budget.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your assets and liabilities so you'll know exactly where you stand financially. Avoid a friend who is cranky and stubborn.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A new opportunity can be very profitable if you keep away from an old problem which takes up too much of your valuable time.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 1988

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You will be quite aware of what you can do to please your associates early today, so take advantage of this situation and improve your work environment. Be sure you don't try to force any issues today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A private talk with your superior can clear up several problems now if you are tactful. Avoid a depressing individual this evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Go out with a good friend whom you haven't understood lately, and find out what the problem is. Don't do anything expensive tonight.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Avoid a nagging business associate today. Doing something thoughtful for your mate would be a wonderful idea at this time.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Adopt a different attitude toward an associate, and you will get more cooperation in the future. Be sure to drive carefully tonight.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A co-worker can give you some great ideas on how to improve your efficiency. Cut down on your expenses tonight, but don't be stingy.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Remember to do something

thoughtful for your mate, thus improving your relationship. Help out a family friend if you are asked.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Do anything at home which will bring a greater harmony there. Entertain some good friends whom your family are quite fond of tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) Bring one of your special talents to the attention of a superior and get excellent results. Set up a more sensible budget this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get advice from an expert on how to improve your property, but be sure to get several estimates before signing any contracts.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't allow a private worry to keep you from enjoying yourself with friends tonight. Use great care while driving or in motion.

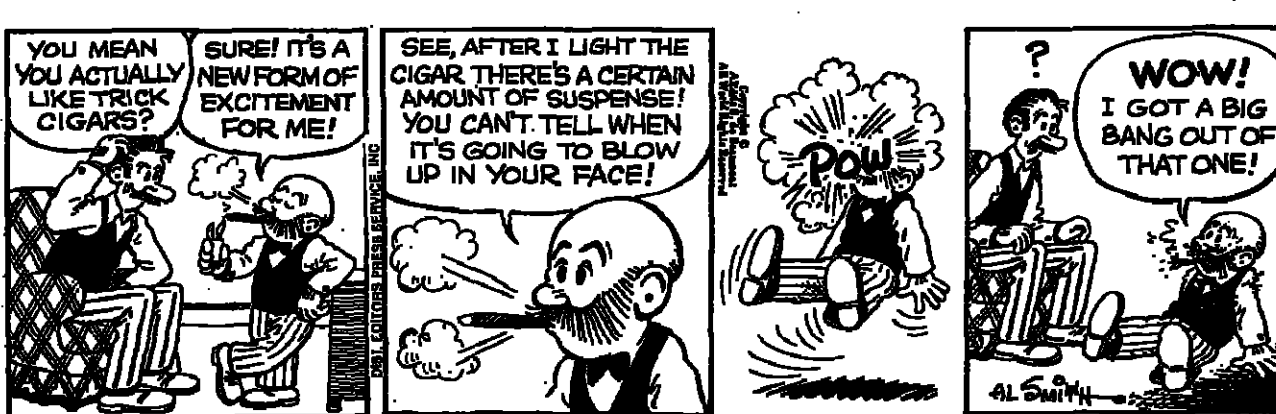
AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Avoid an acquaintance who is in a disagreeable mood. An understanding woman you know can be most helpful to you at this time.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can gain the support of others easily if you state your aims, especially where personal matters are concerned. Improve your health.

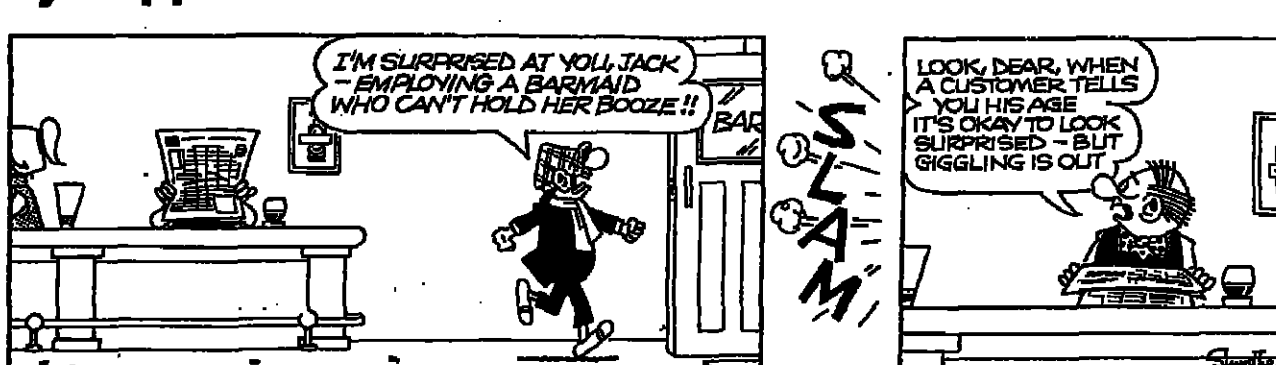
Peanuts



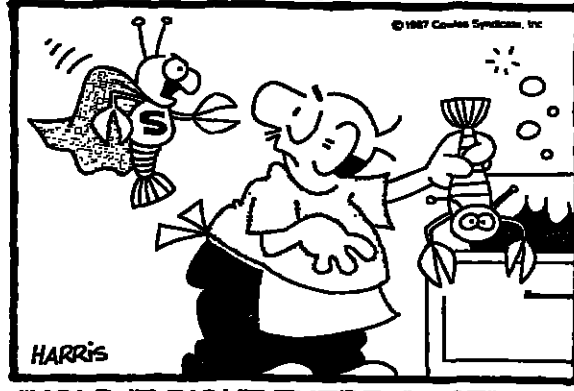
Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp

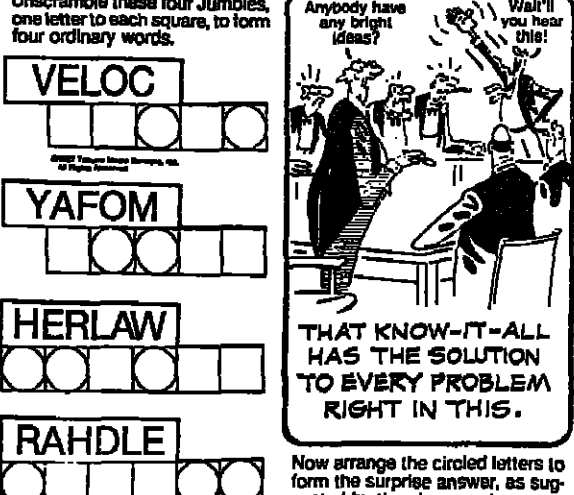


THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



ANSWER: THE OF (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: TRUTH MUSIC SLUCE THRIVE
Answer: A person born with a silver spoon in his mouth seldom makes this—MUCH OF A "STR"

Reagan throws weight behind Nicaraguan rebels

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration threw its weight behind Nicaragua's anti-government rebels Wednesday after Managua announced moves to head off new U.S. aid to the guerrillas.

President Reagan scheduled an afternoon White House meeting with supporters of his Central America policy to signal his determination to maintain military and economic assistance for the contra resistance.

"We must have the courage to stand behind those who continue to put their lives on the line for democracy in Nicaragua," Reagan told administration political appointees in a speech Tuesday.

Reagan, who started his last year in office Wednesday, has invested considerable personal prestige in his pro-contra campaign and is expected to ask Congress on Jan. 26 to vote at least \$50 million in new rebel aid.

The president notified Congress on Tuesday he was resuming shipments of previously approved aid after a short break imposed by Congress to encourage progress at a meeting of five Central American leaders in Costa Rica last weekend.

Reagan's announcement came as Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, aware the vote in both houses of Congress could be close, lifted a six-year-old state of emergency which had curbed most civil liberties in his country.

Administration officials and congressional aides say the contra aid vote will be influenced by the extent to which curbs are removed in practice.

Fighting between contra and Sandinista government forces intensified last year as the rebels took advantage of \$100 million in congressional aid granted in 1986.

The contras attacked three towns in northeastern Nicaragua last month in one of their biggest offensives of the war, and U.S. officials with detailed knowledge of the fighting say the rebels could out the Sandinistas if they receive enough aid.

The administration says aid is vital to ensure Nicaraguan compliance with a regional peace accord reached in Guatemala last August, but opponents of aid suspect the administration wants to topple the Sandinistas.

Lee Hamilton, a Democratic congressman who attended last weekend's talks in Costa Rica as an observer, said House of Representatives supporters and opponents of contra aid were about evenly split with 30 to 40 members undecided.

The House has 257 Democrats to 177 members of Reagan's Republican Party, while the Senate has 54 Democrats and 46 Republicans. The House is expected to vote on contra aid on Feb. 3 and the Senate on Feb. 4.

Contra leaders said in Miami Tuesday they were ready for direct talks with the Sandinistas, but most expressed scepticism at Ortega's pledge to restore political freedoms.

"Ortega has a long history of lies and deceptions," one rebel leader, Alfredo Cesar, told reporters.

Managua says it will introduce an amnesty for political prisoners if a ceasefire is agreed. About 1,500 contras and 1,800 ex-members of the National Guard of deposed dictator Anastasio Somoza could be freed under the amnesty.

The Sandinistas maintained pressure on their domestic opponents on Tuesday by briefly detaining five politicians, including the editor of the independent newspaper La Prensa, for questioning about their contacts with contra leaders.

Reagan has portrayed the Sandinistas as accomplices in a Soviet and Cuban-inspired drive to spread Communism in Central America and has compared the contra leaders with the founding fathers of the United States.

In a separate development the trial of a U.S. pilot accused of crimes against the state is to continue despite the abolition of the special war crimes court judging the case, Nicaragua's Justice Minister Reyes said Tuesday.

"The case continues just the same," Rodrigo Reyes said in an interview.

James Jordan Denby, 58, a rancher from Carlinville, Illinois, was captured on Dec. 6 when his single-engine Cessna was forced down on Nicaragua's eastern Caribbean coast.

The government has said his alleged links with U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels make him an enemy of the state.

Reyes said the case, along with dozens of others outstanding in the tribunal would now be transferred to an ordinary court but the charges against Denby still stood.

U.N. to monitor Afghan accord

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations will monitor the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, under accords already reached for an eventual settlement, Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said.

But he said it was difficult to say whether final agreement on a troop withdrawal was imminent.

In an interview with Reuters, the secretary general said his special representative Diego Cordovez, who is preparing to begin new talks in Kabul and Islamabad, expects the talks to lead to a conclusive round in Geneva next month.

These would be followed by withdrawal of Soviet troops and a hoped-for reconciliation of the rival factions in Afghanistan, Perez de Cuellar said.

"We have some contingency plans," he said, referring to a U.N. role in a peace settlement.

"I wouldn't say that I have a blueprint for everything, but we have already thought of the way in which we can play a role."

Asked if he feared a bloodbath in Afghanistan after Soviet withdrawal if there was not some kind of U.N. military presence there, the secretary general said that was the idea behind the role foreseen for the organisation.

Meanwhile a rocket attack on Khost's airfield has shown vividly that routes in and out of the eastern garrison town remain insecure despite the success of Soviet and Afghan government forces in breaking a three-month rebel siege.

Flights to Khost, already limited to the hours of darkness because of the guerrillas' ability to down planes with U.S.-made, heat-seeking Stinger missiles, were put in further jeopardy on Tuesday by the nightfall assault on the airfield.

The attack occurred just as two military transport planes carrying Western correspondents were about to take off.

'Frontier Gandhi' dies

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (R) — Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi flew to Pakistan Wednesday to pay respects to veteran independence hero Abdul Ghaffar Khan, known by his supporters as "the Frontier Gandhi," who died earlier in the day.

It is Gandhi's first visit to Pakistan, a bitter regional rival of India, since becoming prime minister three years ago.

He was scheduled to return to New Delhi after spending about an hour offering his condolences to relatives and paying homage to Khan, an Indian embassy spokesman in Islamabad said.

Afghan President Najibullah Wednesday told a news conference for Western journalists in Kabul that Khan, who was 97, was "an outstanding militant of the subcontinent."

The controversial Pashtun nationalist, who had been unconscious for more than six months, developed respiratory trouble Tuesday night and died at 6.45 a.m. (0145 GMT) in the north western city of Peshawar.

Haji Mohammad Adel, central information secretary of Ghaffar Khan's Awami National Party (ANP), said the body would be taken in procession over the Khyber Pass to Afghanistan Friday and buried in Jalalabad.

ANP supporters began gathering overnight at Lady Reading Hospital near the Peshawar Fort when they heard of his deteriorating condition.

Ghaffar Khan was revered by his supporters, especially among the Pashtun people of North West Pakistan and eastern Afghanistan.

South Africa of stoking up its civil war.

"We are very pleased that Mr. Strauss finds time to visit southern Africa, not only South Africa," Pk Botha told reporters at Cape Town's D.F. Malan Airport.

Strauss said he had been sent to "get a comprehensive impression and to advise the federal Chancellor (Helmut Kohl) what our policy will be."

The Bavarian state premier is to spend 10 days in the region on what Kohl has called a mission "to try to defuse the explosive situation in South Africa."

Strauss visits S. Africa

CAPE TOWN (R) — South Africa gave a red carpet welcome to West German rightwing Franz Josef Strauss when he arrived Wednesday on a controversial peace mission.

Strauss, whose trip has been criticised by some of his coalition colleagues and German opposition politicians, was met by Foreign Minister Pk Botha and was due to have talks with President P.W. Botha.

South African officials said his trip, which has been shrouded in mystery, was primarily aimed at improving relations between Pretoria and neighbouring Marxist Mozambique, which has accused

Aquino clashes with Congress

MANILA (R) — Philippine President Corazon Aquino, flushed with her ruling coalition's victory in Monday's local elections, has promised better government in 1988 and thwarted a bid by Congress to clip her powers.

"I am not going to play politics with anybody... we shall bring the resources of the government to the people and we shall not allow anybody to stop us," Aquino said Wednesday.

Aquino made the vow at a weekly meeting of her cabinet, which applauded her statement, presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno told reporters.

In her first open clash with Congress, Aquino sent back unsigned to the legislature Wednesday a proposed law that would in effect curtail the presidential powers of appointment.

It was the first bill Aquino has vetoed since the country's first freely elected legislature in 15 years was installed last June.

Under the bill no official appointed by the president to any position, from cabinet down to the bureaus, could take the job unless confirmed by the commission on appointments, a body composed of senators and congressmen.

Aquino said the commission's confirmation power was limited by the constitution to cabinet appointees, heads of diplomatic missions and some military promotions.

Congressional meddling in presidential power to appoint lower-level officials "would destroy our democratic system," Aquino warned.

COLUMNS 768

1 in 13 in W. Germany are foreigners

WIESBADEN, West Germany (R) — Almost one in every 13 people living in West Germany is a foreigner, according to official figures published on Wednesday. The Federal Statistics Office said 4.6 million foreigners were registered as residents at the end of last year, up three per cent on the figure for 1986. Turks were the largest group, forming almost one-third of the foreign population. Yugoslavs, Italians, Greeks, Austrians and Spaniards were also strongly represented.

Le Matin publishes last edition

PARIS (AP) — Le Matin, the leftist morning Paris newspaper that declared bankruptcy last week and hadn't appeared on the street for 12 days, published its last edition Tuesday. The eight-page edition marked the end of the newspaper's 11-year life. Le Matin, created in 1977, had been struggling with severe financial problems for two years when its president decided that with a circulation of only 60,000, it could not continue. Its last regular edition appeared on Jan. 7. Tuesday's final edition was largely cartoons and letters, along with an editorial to the paper's readers. "This Matin is thus the last of our adventure," the editorial said.

Skull found in Transkei premier's office

JOHANNESBURG (R) — When the newly-appointed prime minister of South Africa's black Transkei homeland, Stella Sigcau, walked into her office last November, she found a skeleton in the cupboard. The macabre finding was disclosed by a senior official in Transkei's new military council, which is conducting an inquiry into corruption and misuse in the tribal homeland. The official, M. Mahlati, said the skull and bones were found in a strongroom in the prime minister's office.

Philippines keeps maids at home

MANILA (R) — The government of President Corazon Aquino, concerned over reports of sexual harassment of maids from the Philippines, said Wednesday it would bar women from working abroad. Presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno said a cabinet meeting had approved a Labour Department suggestion to halt the practice of exporting domestic helpers until corrective measures were taken by host countries. "There will be a temporary suspension of the deployment of Philippine labour, more particularly Philippine female labour abroad because of excessive abuses," Benigno said. "There will be a gradual lifting (of the ban) for countries in which the rights and human privileges of Filipino workers are respected," he added.

Handicapped Irish writer wins award

LONDON (R) — Handicapped Irish writer Christy Nolan, who cannot speak and must write with a stick attached to his forehead, was on Tuesday awarded the 1987 Whitbread Book of the Year Award for his novel Under the Eye of the Clock. The book is a thinly disguised autobiography which tells the story of Nolan's struggle to overcome his disabilities caused after nearly dying at birth from asphyxiation. The 22-year-old author's mother, Bernadette Nolan, read his acceptance speech at the prize-giving ceremony. It said: "Tonight is the happiest night of my life. To the judges I say thank you. 'By choosing my book as the book of the year, you have fashioned me as an equal to any other writer, be they creating words by hand or by head.' Nolan cannot control his movements, but he has taught himself to type by using a unicorn stick attached to his head. His mother cradles his head while he is writing and it can take him up to a day to write one page.

U.S. tests cruise missile in Canada

COLD LAKE, Alberta (AP) — A U.S. cruise missile has made a successful test flight over north western Canada. Opposition politicians and anti-nuclear groups protested the experiment.

The missile, which had no warhead, "crossed the target as programmed" and finished the flight in three hours and 43 minutes, said Maj. Jan Martinsen of the Cold Lake Canadian Forces Base in northern Alberta.

"Everything appears to have gone well," he said Tuesday.

The U.S. Defence Department in Washington had no comment.

Members of the New Democrat and Liberation parties, the Greenpeace environmental group and the Canadian Peace Pledge Campaign protested the test, and the Canadian Council of Churches said it violated the spirit of the U.S.-Soviet agreement to ban all intermediate-range nuclear weapons.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's Conservative government said it was fulfilling its commitment as a NATO ally.

The ground-hugging missile was launched over the Beaufort Sea in the Arctic by a U.S. B-52 bomber, which had ferried it from Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan.

The test marked the first of six the Americans are allowed to conduct over Canada each year and the 10th in Canada since 1983, when Ottawa and Washington signed an agreement allowing the experiments.

U.S. admits Marine spy case may have been overblown

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department acknowledged on Tuesday that a spy scandal involving marines at the U.S. embassy in Moscow may have been overblown.

"The situation may not have been what people feared at the start of this," spokesman Charles Redman said.

But he defended the department's decision to adopt a worst-case scenario, which presumed that Soviet KGB agents had penetrated the embassy, a highly-sensitive U.S. listening post.

"The fact that we felt obliged to adopt a worst case scenario is the only prudent reaction one can take under those circumstances," Redman said.

He also said he was not certain "all of the answers are in yet on all of those questions" pertaining to the affair.

The scandal was big news last March and April when the government charged Marine Sergeant Clayton Lonetree and Corporal Arnold Bracy with conspiring to bring Soviet agents into the most sensitive portions of the U.S. embassy in Moscow, exposing to Soviet scrutiny the top-secret communications centre.

By May, the Marines dropped defence charges against Lonetree and convicted him of lesser offences. In June, all charges against Bracy were dropped for insufficient evidence.

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WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkin

VEGETARIAN
By Dorothy B. Martin

ACROSS

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